

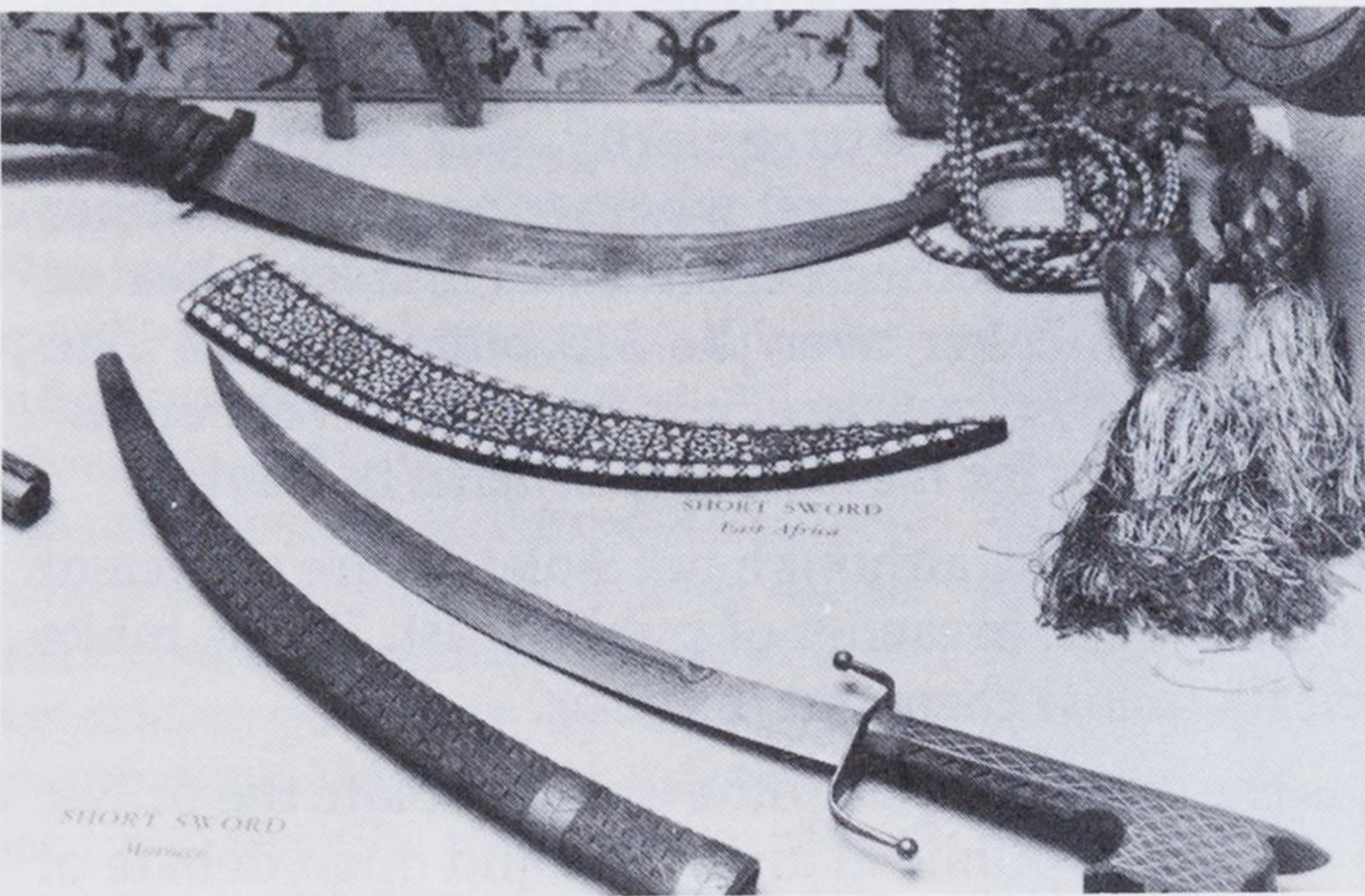
ADC Times

News and Opinions of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

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Exhibits of "Moslem Weaponry" dominate the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit on the "Moslem World"

Smithsonian Institution Agrees to Change "Moslem World" Exhibit

ADC is pleased to report that the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History will soon open a new exhibit on Islam. ADC contacted the museum about certain problems with the current exhibit, which is part of a display on comparative religions.

On March 22, ADC President Albert Mokhiber and Director of Special Projects Joan Drake met with Frank Talbot, Director of the National Museum of

Natural History, Deputy Director Dr. Stanwyn G. Shetler, Dr. Mary Jo Arnoldi, Head of Ethnography and Associate Curator of African Ethnology and Art, and Associate Director for Public Programs Dr. Robert Sullivan to discuss the problems with the existing exhibit titled "The Moslem World."

The museum staff readily agreed that the exhibit had serious flaws and

See **Smithsonian**, page 8

Highlights:

3 ADC Calls for Cut in Aid to Israel

ADC testifies at Congressional hearings.

4 ACCESS Marks 21st Anniversary

Detroit community service group honors Abdeen Jabara with Lifetime Service Award.

5 U.S. Investigates Israeli Arms' Sales

Funk Report charges Israel with illegal transfers.

6 Torture Reported at Khiam Prison

Amnesty International report cites Israeli complicity in mistreatment of detainees in southern Lebanon prison.

Also In This Issue:

Editorial 2

ADC meets with FBI on Alex Odeh case

Legal Briefs 9

ADC hosts visitors; meets with Boutros Ghali at U.N.

National Office News . . . 11

Prodigy censors Arab "notes" Media Monitor 14

1992 Candidates Survey 15

A profile in campus activism Campus Corner 17

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) is a non-sectarian, non-partisan service organization committed to defending the rights and promoting the heritage of Arab-Americans. The largest grassroots Arab-American organization in the United States, ADC was founded in 1980 by U.S. Senator James G. Abourezk in response to stereotyping, defamation and discrimination directed against Americans of Arab origin.

ADC serves its nationwide membership through direct advocacy in cases of defamation, through legal action in cases of discrimination and through counseling in matters of immigration.

The ADC Research Institute publishes information on issues of concern to Arab-Americans and provides educational materials on Arab history and culture, and on the ethnic experience of Arabs in America. It also sponsors summer internships in Washington for Arab-American and other college students.

ADC's Middle East Women's and Children's Fund addresses the humanitarian needs of victims of violence in the Middle East.

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Editorial

Fond Farewell

Spring cleaning has taken its toll on Washington, with more than 100 Members of Congress either losing primary elections or voluntarily stepping down. The Administration, too, has experienced some alterations. Two of the most unexpected, but welcome, changes include the "retirement" of Ambassador Richard Schifter and Congressman Larry Smith (D-FL).

Schifter left his post as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs over, what news reports claimed, were his differences with the Bush Administration concerning Israel.

Schifter was the founder and president of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA) prior to his appointment to the State Department by the Reagan Administration. One of Schifter's chief responsibilities was preparing the State Department's Annual Country Report on Human Rights Practices. Schifter came under considerable fire in recent years for allegedly whitewashing the section on Israeli abuses of Palestinian human rights. Given his inability to impartially review Israel's record, ADC had called for his resignation early on.

Representative Smith brought equal cheer to human rights activists when he announced that he would not seek re-election this year. Smith, who leaves under the pall of campaign finance irregularity, was an unabashed supporter of Israel who often seemed to forget whether he was a member of Congress or the Knesset. Many will remember Smith for his recent heated exchange with Secretary of State Baker over the \$10 billion Israeli loan guarantee request. Nobody, however, can recall him fighting so vociferously to secure similar loan guarantees for his own constituents in Florida.

The examples of Schifter and Smith, although not isolated, are sufficient to explain popular disgust for such breaches of public trust. Let us make certain that others of their ilk follow them out the door.

Now, more than ever, is the time to expose others who violate the public trust, and to engage the American public in an honest and open debate of the issues. Of course, all would be lost, if a new breed of like-minded politicians were simply to replace the outgoing class. It is crucial, therefore, that you study all the candidates and the issues they support—then vote your way to victory.

Voice Your Concerns

Make your concerns known to politicians and the media. Make your voices heard!

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PBS
1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 739-5000

CBS
524 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
(212) 975-4321

ADC Testifies before Congress on Foreign Aid

ADC President Albert Mokhiber gave vital testimony on May 1 at hearings on foreign aid allocations for fiscal year 1993 held by the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. ADC was in the company of 50 other witnesses from diverse groups ranging from the Sierra Club to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and Transafrica.

Mokhiber called for a halt in aid to Israel based on standing U.S. and international law. He cited the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act which links foreign aid to respect for basic human rights and compliance with IAEA nuclear safeguards; the Hickenlooper Amendment of 1962 which bars aid to any country that seizes the property of U.S. citizens; the Arms Export Control Act which bars aid to countries using American weapons for offensive purposes; and the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 which bars aid on the basis of apartheid. Mokhiber supported his testimony with many examples of Israeli wrongdoing. He noted that Israel maintains an apartheid system with legal discrimination against non-Jewish Israeli citizens and the seizure of Palestinian-American property by the Israeli government. He noted that Israel has not only illegally transferred nuclear weapons technology to South Africa, but refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and refused to declare its own nuclear weapons ability. Israeli human rights abuses and illegal transfers of U.S. arms are well-known. Israel continues its unprovoked attacks against Lebanese civilians with high-tech U.S. weaponry in periodic incursions and strafing runs. Mokhiber described the use of lethal U.S. teargas against unarmed civilians in the occupied Palestinian territories.

AIPAC's testimony, on the other hand, pleaded for yet more aid, needed because Israel had "suffered heavy psychological...losses during the Gulf crisis." AIPAC persisted in requesting the \$10 billion in loan guarantees, "Hopefully, the impasse that has occurred between the Administration and the Israeli government on this issue can soon be resolved and the guarantees can

be provided in the near future." The AIPAC testimony included a gratuitous tirade against the Palestine Liberation Organization, which only served to underscore its centrality in any solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. AIPAC's testimony admitted that U.S. aid to Israel is "that nation's lifeline" and "an important tool to advance the peace process." Only, AIPAC inverted the tested formula—that withholding U.S. aid encourages Israel to negotiate seriously for peace—by claiming that withholding the aid "reduces the Arab parties' incentive to negotiate in earnest" and "creates nervousness in Israel."

The AIPAC testimony painted an idyllic picture of Israeli democracy in action which belied the misery on the ground to which ADC's testimony al-

luded. In 1991, this included Israeli "death squads" which killed 29 unarmed Palestinian civilians, the demolition of 55 Palestinian houses and sealing of 62 others for alleged security reasons, a 40% loss in school days for Palestinian children due to Israeli closure orders, censorship of foreign as well as Palestinian media, the kidnapping and hostage-holding of six Lebanese civilians in Israeli jails without trial or access to the International Committee of the Red Cross, using Lebanese civilians as human shields on patrols in southern Lebanon, and numerous other glaring abuses of human rights.

Copies of the testimony are available from the ADC National Office. ■

\$10 Billion Loan Defeated, Pro-Israel Lobby Vows to Continue Fight

Months of hard work on outreach and education paid off when Congress hedged on Israel's controversial \$10 billion loan guarantees request at the eleventh hour in order to push through the foreign aid bill for fiscal year 1992 by the March 31 deadline.

The healthy national debate over this extra aid for Israel during hard economic times at home and worsening Israeli human rights violations had delayed the passage of the aid bill last year. Members of Congress were loathe to flout their pro-Israeli financial backers, while equally fearful of losing votes from their constituencies, who are overwhelmingly against the loans, during an election year. Senate supporters of the loan guarantees, however, wouldn't be satisfied until a "sense of the Senate" resolution was tacked on at the last minute. This non-binding resolution was approved by 99 to 1, Senator Robert C. Byrd (D-WV) casting the only dissenting vote, after a three-hour debate. Senator Byrd asserted that

the loans would neither support U.S. Mideast policy nor help the peace process. The vague resolution called for "appropriate" loan guarantees for Israel without specifying any definite amount or conditions. This sends a clear message to the White House and American taxpayers that Israel's friends in Congress are not finished with this issue. According to *Near East Report*, AIPAC's newsletter, "Obtaining [the] loan guarantees...may be the most important peace-time issue the pro-Israel community has faced since partition. It is not one we are about to abandon."

It is to the credit of ADC activists and coalition organizations, which mobilized the public opposition to the loans over the past year, that they have not been granted. There is much more hard work ahead as this issue enters the upcoming local, state and presidential elections. The National Office will keep members apprised as the next chapter on the \$10 billion issue unfolds. ■

ACCESS Celebrates 21 Years of Service

It's been 21 years since ADC Vice Chairman Abdeen Jabara and a small group of concerned individuals first struggled to raise enough funds to rent a small storefront office in Detroit from which ACCESS was born. The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) celebrated its 21st anniversary on February 22 at a gala banquet where Jabara was presented with the Lifetime Service Award and U.S. Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar was the keynote speaker and recipient of the Arab American of the Year Award.

In 1971, an all-volunteer staff helped 125 people with tax problems, interpreting and English lessons. Over the years, ACCESS has persevered in spite of constant set-backs and two major acts of arson in 1983 and 1987 which destroyed the buildings and most of their contents. After the 1983 fire, volunteers set up tents outside the smoldering remains and work continued -- no programs were cancelled, no people were turned away. After the 1987 arson attack, volunteers set-up shop temporarily in the Saulino Court Building while raising funds to purchase the building. They did just this and soon reopened officially with extensive renovations on the building. A 1,500-volume library and a 60-ft. high mural depicting the struggles of Arab-Americans had been destroyed in the fire and would take years to replace.

Today, ACCESS serves over 32,000 families in the Detroit area from four locations with more than 40 programs ranging from pre-natal healthcare to emergency food and shelter programs, from family counseling to the arts, from afterschool tutoring to outreach seminars for the general community. Forty full-time staff and 150 volunteers serve the community out of four buildings. In addition, five paid volunteers work for

ACCESS, their salaries paid by other sponsor organizations such as VISTA and the United Auto Workers.

In September 1991, ACCESS officially opened its 7,000-volume "tutoring library" to help students. Ford Motor Company now provides executives and professionals for the afterschool tutoring program. Local artist Sari Khoury designed three large panels to replace the destroyed mural. The paintings

the 'oud and other instruments to carry on their culture.

The comprehensive services offered to the Arab-American community by ACCESS from four locations in Dearborn include such innovative programs as the Teen Health Center, AIDS education and counseling services, and the Well Baby Clinic -- all in the ACCESS Wayne County Health Center. The Eastside Office offers vocational training and job placement as well as Immigration and Naturalization Services. The Family Counseling Center gives treatment for mental illness and drug and alcohol abuse, along with family and individual counseling. It also provides education and training to sensitize social service and health providers, teachers and bureaucrats in the general public, about the culture, concerns and special needs of the Arab-American community in the Detroit area. The Main Building handles a wide range of programs from cultural arts to food vouchers for women, children and senior citizens. The Main Building runs the Recreation and Youth Services, the Tutoring Library, and classes on English as a second language provided by Adult Education, Dearborn Board of Education.

This indefatigable community service organization received two official tributes on February 19, 1992. State Congresswoman Agnes Dobronski presented a tribute to ACCESS before the State House and State Senator Robert Geake presented a tribute before the State Senate. Senator Geake said, "Years of devotion, determination and hard work have helped to establish an organization that has helped tens of thousands of people on the road to stability and citizenship...and I am aware of the many success stories in which the students of yesterday are, today, the productive business, educational and political cornerstones of cities across our state." ■



Access staff gather under the Sari Khoury mural

were completed in 1988. The Arab Folk Heritage Museum, which opened two years ago, is the only museum of its kind in the U.S. It attracts a large number of visitors, especially high school students from the Detroit area. The museum houses a wide range of exhibits which change every few months. Currently, exhibits on Arabic calligraphy, Arab-American women, the Roman ruins of Syria and Lebanon, the history of Arab immigration to the Detroit area, and the history of Arabic coffee are on display. Truly a living museum, Arab-American children are also taught traditional storytelling, embroidery and classic Arabic music on

Israel's Arms Transfer Scandal Diverted

On March 12, *The Washington Times* broke the sensational story of a U.S. investigation into reports that Israel had illegally re-exported U.S. Patriot missile technology to China. The following day, *The Wall Street Journal* would publish the results of its six-week investigation into Israel's long record of illegal arms transfers, including references to a forthcoming special report by the State Department Inspector General Sherman M. Funk that would charge Israel with "a systematic and growing pattern of unauthorized transfers of sensitive U.S. items and technology...dating back to 1983."

The abortive Patriot missile "scandal" caused such an uproar that no one even noticed when the "Funk Report" was finally released. The Patriot missile of Gulf War fame, the world's only battle-tested anti-missile system and the U.S. military's only operational defense against ballistic missiles, acted like a magnet for the entire Israeli arms transfer issue. When the U.S. team sent to Israel the third week of March, solely to investigate the alleged diversion of the Patriot missile to China, returned without any disclosed evidence of Israeli wrongdoing, the entire issue of illegal Israeli arms transfers was dropped. And no one even noticed when the Funk report was finally released to the public on April 1.

In Appendix B of the "Funk Report" (*Report of Audit: Department of State Defense Trade Controls-2-CI-016*, March 1992, United States Department of State, Office of Inspector General), a memorandum dated February 18, 1992 from the Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence S. Eagleburger to Funk states that "a technical team [will be sent]...to [Israel]...next month [i.e., March] to meet with both government officials and industry representatives. The team will give briefings on the licensing process, transfer restrictions and sanctions that can be imposed for violations of agreements entered into under the AECA [Arms Export Control Act] (emphasis added)." The team that went to Israel in response to the ensuing Patriot "scandal" was only mandated to investigate the allegations that Israel

had diverted Patriot missile technology to China, not the numerous other alleged arms transfers. The Patriot investigation may have served as a warning flag to Israel to toe the line "or else." The State Department's refusal to comment on the team's findings could indicate that it is holding back disclosure in exchange for Israel staying in the Mideast peace process or it could indicate that nothing was found and that the Patriot missile "scandal" itself was a diversion—not of arms, but of public attention from the "'overwhelming' evidence, according to senior U.S. officials, that Israel has re-exported weapons... [including] air-to-air missiles sold to China, anti-tank missiles sold to South Africa and cluster bombs sent to Ethiopia and Chile" (*The Wall Street Journal*, March 13, 1992).

Another diversionary tactic by Israel's American friends was the April 18 "leak" reported in *The L.A. Times* about alleged arms transfers by Saudi Arabia. *New York Times* columnist Leslie H. Gelb wrote on April 24, "the leakers of the L.A. Times story got their just desserts. They planted a phony tale and were found out."

In a March 19 interview with *Washington Jewish Week*, Funk had said of Israel's arms transfers, "When we talk in our report about 'technology,' we are talking about hardware. We are not talking about something abstract. We mean something physical that can be looked at. Something with a serial number on it." The *WJW* article continued, "The striking precision of Funk's references, especially to 'serial numbers,' raises the possibility that the classified intelligence on which he based his conclusions cites specific component pieces Israel has re-exported." The March 13 article in *The Wall Street Journal* stated, "Mr. Funk argues that sanctions can be imposed by the president as long as the items re-exported are on the official U.S. Munitions List."

Another indication that the Patriot investigation in Israel might have been an empty exercise in public relations is that, according to weapons experts, "it would be difficult for the U.S. team to determine if Israel had copied and

transmitted technical documents, which are part of the package the manufacturer [of the Patriot missile], Raytheon Corp., provides to foreign users" (*The Washington Times*, March 27, 1992).

Although the State Department played down the seriousness of the Funk findings, "the first time the [U.S.] government has publicly released evidence that, without naming Israel, will strongly suggest it has exported U.S. weapons technology without authorization" (*WSJ*, March 13, 1992), the non-politicized defense establishment refused to let the issue die, even after the abortive Patriot "scandal." According to the April 9 *Washington Times*, "Defense Secretary Dick Cheney continues to be concerned about Israel's transfers of U.S.-origin technology, including Patriot missile know-how. 'We still have concerns on the issue in general,' Pentagon spokesperson Pete Williams told reporters."

ADC President Albert Mokhiber, in a letter published April 9 in *The Washington Times*, called on the media and concerned citizens to "take the lead in requesting a congressional investigation into this very important matter of unauthorized technology transfer and sales." The letter concluded, "The notorious case of Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard underscores the seriousness of this breach of U.S. security." ADC also made formal requests to members of Congress to initiate hearings, noting that, "The penalties for such acts [of illegal U.S. arms diversion] include not only the curtailment of similar aid but of all foreign assistance as well."

ADC members are encouraged to contact their Members of Congress to call for hearings to impose sanctions against Israel for its "systematic and growing pattern" of illegal arms transfers. ■

*Don't miss ADC's
special
1992 Convention
issue!*

Amnesty International Release Report on Khiam Prison

"Most men and women held in Khiam have been tortured to get information, and we fear this pattern is continuing." So read a special report issued by Amnesty International on conditions in Khiam detention center in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon. Issued May 4, the report includes detailed testimonies of former detainees. The nearly 200 prisoners at Khiam are not permitted to see their families, and humanitarian organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross have routinely been denied access to the facility.

The South Lebanese Army (SLA) has used Khiam, which is in southern Lebanon, as its main detention facility since 1985. Most detainees are Lebanese suspected of belonging to armed groups such as *Hizbullah*. According to the report, however, "evidence indicates that Israeli officials have been directly involved in the affairs of the centre, including by participating in interrogation and torture, at least until 1988." While direct Israeli involvement has diminished, AI said Israeli officials are still reported to visit the center and be involved in supervision.

The 44-page report documents routine torture and ill-treatment, including beatings and electrical shocks on sensitive body parts. Some detainees were doused with water while hung from an electrical pole. As a form of coercion, detainees reported that often close relatives are picked up, detained and tortured. One detainee said his 50-year-old mother was tortured while

held in Khiam for three months. "They tortured her to put pressure on me," he said, "Eventually, when I heard her scream, I confessed."

Given the fact that Israeli and SLA officials have offered the release of Khiam detainees and others held in Israel in exchange for four Israeli soldiers and eight SLA members in Lebanon, Amnesty International asserted, "On this basis, we believe the responsibility for the treatment and fate of the detainees in Khiam lies with both Israel and the SLA." It continued, "As a minimum, they should see to it that all forms of torture and ill-treatment should be ended and visits by families and the ICRC be allowed without delay."

The report said that despite the military and political conflict in Lebanon, and the circumstances under which persons were detained, "...if these detainees are held exclusively in order to compel others to release detainees or provide information about missing persons, they are to be regarded as hostages, and as such should be released immediately and unconditionally."

Amnesty has expressed concern about the Khiam detainees to Israeli and SLA authorities since 1985, and has also requested information on the whereabouts of 36 detainees from southern Lebanon who are being held without charge or trial in Israel. Expressing concern about the thousands of people missing in Lebanon, Amnesty said, "The fate of all people missing in Lebanon should be clarified by those who hold them. No one should be tor-

tured, and no one's freedom or safety should depend on the actions of others."

ADC applauded the Amnesty report in a press release and immediately sent a letter to the Israeli government demanding an end to the inhumane treatment and detention at Khiam. ADC also called upon the U.S. Administration to cut all aid to Israel in an effort to compel Israel to withdraw from Lebanon and to release all Arab hostages held at Khiam. ADC has urged action on Khiam for a number of years, and ADC President Albert Mokhiber attempted to visit the facility while in Lebanon last year.

In a statement to the press, Mokhiber said, "Practices which offend American law and principles include the violent treatment of persons held in custody by Israel authorities. We reiterate our humanitarian call for the same yardstick to be used to condemn human rights abuses committed at home and those committed abroad."

ADC Meets with Amnesty Secretary General

On March 19, ADC President Albert Mokhiber, Director of Legal Services Gregory T. Nojeim, Middle East Director Nidal Sukhtian, and Denyse Sabagh, a Washington-based immigration lawyer, met Ian Martin, Secretary General of Amnesty International, at A.I.'s U.S. headquarters in Washington, D.C. Martin invited the Arab-American advocates in order to express his support for ADC's human rights work and to discuss various issues of mutual concern. Sukhtian reported on the current human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. Joint efforts to increase outreach and membership between A.I. and ADC were also discussed. Although this was the first meeting at this level between the two organizations, ADC has worked with A.I. in the past on a range of issues. ADC's work on the LA-8 case was very useful to A.I. and Martin asked ADC to continue monitoring human rights in the U.S. and to further develop a close working relationship. ■

Birzeit University Announces The International Summer Program '92

Six-week study program from July 20 - August 8, 1992.

Earn college credits in Intensive Arabic, Sociology and Political Science while experiencing student life at a Palestinian university at low cost.

Deadline for applications: July 3, 1992

For information/application, write via registered mail to:

International Summer Program
Continuing Education Department
Birzeit University
P.O. Box 14
Birzeit, West Bank via Israel

PCRF Brings Palestinian Children Maimed by Israeli Forces to the U.S. for Treatment

ADC co-hosted an April 10 press conference with the Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) to focus media attention on the effects of Israeli violence and brutality against Palestinians under occupation. Featured at the briefing was 18-year-old Tareq Ghosheh, who came to the U.S. from Beitunia, outside the West Bank city of Ramallah, to undergo a special leg lengthening operation, called "the Ilizarov Method," on his right leg, which is seven centimeters shorter than his left leg due to an injury.

Ghosheh was shot and severely wounded on October 8, 1990, during the melee on the Haram Al-Sharif in East Jerusalem. At that time, 17 Palestinian worshippers were killed and many injured when Israeli occupation forces opened fire. The medical procedure will take place at Shriners' Hospital in Chicago which has offered to defray the costs. Ghosheh's travel and other expenses have been arranged by PCRF which is sponsoring his medical treatment.

PCRF spokesperson Christie Sosebee flew from California to take part in the press briefing and to attend a PCRF fundraiser that was held that night at the American University in Washington, D.C. Her brother Steve Sosebee, a former ADC Eyewitness Israel delegate and journalist stationed in occupied Palestine, is founder and president of PCRF. He began arranging treatment for injured Palestinian children in the spring of 1990, after witnessing the brutal maiming of Palestinian children at the hands of the Israeli military. In many cases, adequate medical treatment in occupied Palestine is not available due to Israeli restrictions on the importation of medical equipment and supplies.

While Sosebee personally funded treatment for his first charge, he established PCRF to create a funding base and to locate doctors and organizations across the U.S., willing to underwrite the costs of treatment and travel. In addition, American families are sought to host the children during their stay.

Christie Sosebee is currently hosting 10-year-old Nizar el Barki who is being treated at Shriners' Hospital in Los Angeles. Nizar is being fitted for prostheses for a leg, a foot and a forearm. He was severely injured in October 1990 when an Israeli helicopter dropped a bomb near Nizar's home in Khan Younis Refugee Camp in Gaza while he was outside playing. Sosebee recounted the hope and spirit of this child, who "picks himself up with courage and determination." According to Sosebee, there are at least 3,000 other young Palestinians who still need the bone-lengthening "Ilizarov" operation, and countless others who are maimed and injured daily.

At the time of the briefing, Steve Sosebee was in occupied Palestine trying to obtain the release from jail of two teenagers scheduled to come to the U.S. for treatment. St. Joseph Hospital in Houston and the Rotary Foundation had agreed to pay the costs of a hip replacement for one of the boys a year ago, but Israel refused to release him from jail. As ADC President Albert Mokhiber noted, "It is tragically ironic that, not only do our tax dollars help pay for Israeli abuses, but we are also paying for treatment with our philanthropy. This is confusing for Palestinians. And that Israel wouldn't even allow these children to leave, when the medical treatment was already paid for, is an outrage."

Tareq Ghosheh recounted the damage done to his leg when a high velocity bullet, traveling 900 meters per second, hit his right thigh. It caused extensive nerve damage and severed blood vessels, necessitating 37 units of blood transfusions. His kidneys failed and he was on dialysis for three weeks until they recovered. He had veins and arteries grafted. Ghosheh maintained that he would have died if he had been taken to any hospital in the territories other than al-Maqassad Hospital in Jerusalem. Due to severe Israeli restrictions on the importation of medical equipment and supplies, there simply are not adequate medical facilities in the

occupied Palestinian territories. Desperately needed ambulances and medical equipment donated by U.S. organizations and European governments have been impounded at the entry ports.

Ghosheh said the Knesset's newly reinstated shoot-to-kill policy allows soldiers to fire in less than life-endangering situations. He said the new law permits a soldier to kill a Palestinian child for throwing stones or for writing graffiti and running away. "If they don't like your shirt, they rip it off," said Ghosheh, "If they don't like your face, they hit it." He told of one incident when he and some friends were lined up on the ground by Israeli soldiers. Soda cans were lined up behind them so the soldiers could have a target practice session.

Ghosheh said that the biggest concern now for the Palestinians is the daily increase in settlement activity. The settler militias, now under the auspices of the Minister of Defense, patrol Palestinian residential areas and go on frequent rampages. A group of settlers recently ransacked a mosque in the village of Kiri and defiled the Qur'an inside.

ADC helped facilitate PCRF tours with media and organizational contacts and exposure on Capitol Hill. It has also cited PCRF cases as yet another reason for the U.S. to cut aid to Israel.

PCRF is currently seeking doctors, medical institutions, donors and hosts for three young Palestinians. Interested parties should contact: The Palestine Children's Relief Fund, P.O. Box 7000-178, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. Or telephone Christie Sosebee at 213-389-5159, Lisa Barley at 313-831-6781, or Sue Nasir at 818-445-4028. ■

should be replaced as soon as possible. In the meeting, Dr. Arnoldi requested that ADC select an appropriate representative from the Arab-American community to assist the museum in mounting a more suitable display. In a March 23 letter to Mokhiber, Dr. Arnoldi wrote: "I feel that our meeting was a good first step to raise awareness within the museum administration about the need for change in the exhibits. I look forward to meeting with you and other representatives again to begin discussions about specific ideas for ways that our exhibits can better reflect the rich cultural diversity of Arab peoples both in the Middle East and here in America and of Islam worldwide."

ADC consulted with Arabic and Islamic experts, many of whom attended a brainstorming meeting at ADC's National Office on April 2. As a result, it was decided that Dr. Esin Atil, an internationally recognized Smithsonian Scholar and the Smithsonian's Historian of Islamic Art, should serve as consultant for the museum's new exhibit. Dr. Atil is an expert on the historic tradition and contemporary aspects of the Muslim world, and familiar with the Smithsonian's own inventory of Islamic artifacts.

The outdated display, which has been collecting dust in a dark corner of the National Museum of Natural History for more than thirty years, is riddled with inaccuracies and major oversights, clearly the product of unenlightened Orientalism. Dr. Suha Sabbagh, Executive Director of the Institute for Arab Women's Studies, assisted ADC in compiling a list of the most glaring problems with the display. Sabbagh noted an imbalance in the size of displays of various religions as they relate to world populations. For instance, "Ceremonial Objects of Judaism" was given the same amount of display space as "The World of Islam," even though one-fourth of the world's population is Muslim (one billion people) as compared to 14 million Jews worldwide.

The display map of the Muslim world omits Israel, parts of Asia, the South Pacific and the Western Hemisphere as loci of Muslim populations, and concentrates only on the Middle East. There was no mention made of

women's contributions to Muslim culture, however, the exhibit featured firearms, which are not a Muslim invention. The emphasis on weaponry in the display plants the stereotype of Islam as a militaristic religion in the minds of impressionable young museum-goers. The caption above the display on "Weapons of North Africa and the Near East," reads, "In the Moslem world, every man had to be armed because of customs of retaliation which led to blood feuds, the prevalence of bandits, and wars brought about by intertwined political and religious forces." After viewing the exhibit, ADC's Mokhiber said, "We find it highly offensive and misinformed for an exhibit on comparative religions, which quite rightly presented religious objects exclusively in the Judaism display, to fill the display on Islam with weaponry." In addition, the Islam display is dimly lit and looks neglected. The selective criteria used in the choice of artifacts was questioned by the experts with whom ADC consulted.

The exhibit's skewed presentation of Islam is most clearly seen when compared to the more careful presentation of the adjacent display on Judaism. The Judaism exhibit reads: "Judaism...upholds in its ceremonies and literature the concept of **One God** [emphasis added] who acts with justice, mercy, and truth and requires the same conduct from man..." The Islam exhibit reads: "...Moslems believe in **one god (Allah)** [emphasis added]..." By failing to capitalize the Muslim reference to God, the display reinforces the idea that Islam is somehow "different." Furthermore, by alluding to the Arabic word for "God," *Allah*, and not to the Hebrew equivalent, *Yahweh*, Islam is made to seem exotic and unfamiliar.

While Muslims believe the Qur'an, literally "the recitation," is the word of God, wording in the display implies that the Prophet Muhammad was the author. In Islam this is sacrilege. The exhibit also describes the Qur'an as "the Muslim Bible" rather than "the Muslim holy book," revealing an inherent bias.

Objections to the Smithsonian exhibit, "The Moslem World," are reflective of a general reappraisal of American museums taking place across the country. More often than not, American museums have treated non-

European cultures and non-Judeo-Christian religions with condescension and, often, careless inaccuracy. In a *Washington Post* article of October 13, 1991, the Smithsonian's Dr. Robert Sullivan said, "Issue number one we're facing is how to get the Eurocentrism out and how to replace it with a balanced view."

The Smithsonian Museums, situated on the Mall in the heart of the nation's capital, are part of our national heritage. Millions of Americans and foreign visitors view the museums yearly, taking away lasting impressions of the exhibits and what and whom they represent. The exhibits reflect the American worldview and self-image. It is hoped that the new exhibit on the Muslim world will help to promote better understanding and appreciation for our own multi-cultural and multi-religious society and a more balanced view of Muslim cultures worldwide.

Until the new exhibit is in place, ADC recommends the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and the Naff Arab-American Collection to Washington, D.C. visitors. The Sackler Gallery of Asian art usually has temporary exhibits of Islamic and/or Arab art. A temporary exhibit of Sumerian and Akkadian art from 3,500-2,000 b.c. titled, "When Kingship Descended from Heaven: Masterpieces of Mesopotamian Art from the Louvre," will be on display until August 9, 1992. Another exhibit, "The Art of Mughal India," will open at the Sackler Gallery from May 24 through December 6, 1992, presenting 20 paintings of the Islamic Mughal empire from the 16th to the 18th centuries. Researchers interested in the history and culture of early Arab-American immigrants should visit the Naff Arab-American Collection in the Division of Community Life of the National Museum of American History's Archives. It has 150 artifacts and 55 cubic feet of archival materials on turn-of-the-century Arab-Americans including audiotaped histories of 275 first- and second-generation Arab-Americans, over 650 photographs, statistical data, and historical books and journals of the era. Researchers should call ahead for an appointment at (202) 357-3270. ■

Defense Department Makes Amends for Discriminatory Policy

As a result of a settlement agreement in a discrimination case, the Department of Defense has agreed to spend \$1.2 million to advertise the fact that it may have improperly denied security clearances because of national origin to naturalized Americans from 29 countries. The DOD has advertised its potential liability in newspapers across the United States.

The discrimination resulted from enforcement of the Defense Department's "5/10 year rule," which became effective January 2, 1987. Under the 5/10 year rule, the Defense Department refused to process an application for a security clearance if the applicant was a naturalized citizen originally from a "hostile" country who had been a U.S. citizen for less than 5 years or lived in the U.S. for less than 10 years. Of the 29 countries then-labelled "hostile," most were communist countries and four were Arab: Iraq, Libya, Southern Yemen and Syria.

The Federal District Court in Washington D.C. declared in February, 1988 that the 5/10 year rule unconstitutionally discriminated against naturalized Americans from the "hostile" countries, and the Defense Department rescinded the rule. However, in many cases, it continued to enforce the rule.

The Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel, which is charged with handling discrimination cases based upon citizenship, has informed ADC that it can receive complaints regarding the 5/10 year rule. Complaints must be filed within 180 days of the date upon

which the victim of the discrimination first saw the published advertisement regarding the rule.

U.S. citizens originally from Iraq, Libya, Southern Yemen and Syria, who were denied security clearances from 1987 through 1991 for reasons that may be related to their national origin are urged to contact ADC's Legal Services Department for more information.

Legislation Targets Consular Review Process

Many Arab-Americans have experienced first-hand the anguish that accompanies the apparently arbitrary decision of a U.S. consular post abroad

the United States and the Secretary of State, has the power to overturn a decision of a consular post to deny any visa application.

Legislation proposed by the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) would change that. AILA has proposed that Congress direct the State Department to establish a Board of Visa Appeals to review decisions of consular officers to deny immigrant and non-immigrant visas, except visitor visas (B-1 and B-2 visas). The Board of Visa Appeals would employ a court-like procedure to review consular decisions in an effort to enhance fairness and consistency in those decisions. Under the AILA



(l-r) ADC Legal Services Director Gregory T. Nojeim, Norma Odeh, and ADC President Albert Mokhiber outside the FBI in Washington

to deny a visa to a family member who would like to come to the United States. And they have encountered extreme frustration in their efforts to have those decisions overturned. With the assistance of Members of Congress and U.S. Senators, decisions to deny visas are sometimes reconsidered.

But at present, nobody, including the U.S. Supreme Court, the President of

proposal, consular review would occur in the United States and could be sought by the family member or employer that petitioned on behalf of the alien, and in the case of students, by the school or university the student would attend.

Although the legislation has not yet been introduced, ADC has begun to contact congressional offices to express support for review of all consular

decisions to deny visas, including visitor visas. ADC activists are asked to urge their Members of Congress to support consular review legislation.

Travel Advisory Issued

The U.S. State Department issued a travel advisory advising all U.S. citizens to avoid travel to the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem. In explicit recognition of Israeli discrimination against Arab-Americans, the State Department cautioned that American citizens with Arab surnames may encounter delays and other obstacles in bringing cameras and electronic equipment from Jordan to the West Bank at the Allenby Bridge. Toothpaste, shaving cream and cosmetics are sometimes confiscated or destroyed at the Bridge, and Americans are denied access to U.S. consular officers, lawyers and family members during Israeli searches, questioning, and detention, the State Department said.

ADC has closely monitored the treatment of Arab-Americans and others by Israel, and has worked closely with the State Department and U.S. officials in Israel and occupied Palestine to ensure that the rights of all U.S. citizens are upheld and enforced. As a result of ADC's efforts, the State Department and the Israeli government reached an agreement in late 1987 that guarantees the right of U.S. citizens, detained at Israeli points of entry, access to U.S. consular officers.

ATTENTION:

Should you encounter difficulties with Israeli officials at points of entry, remember your rights. Contact the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv or the consulate in East Jerusalem. In addition, please send a written report of your incident to the ADC Legal Services Department.

ADC Urges FBI to Step Up Odeh Investigation

ADC President Albert Mokhiber and Legal Services Director Gregory T. Nojeim paid a visit to FBI headquarters on March 24 to urge more action on the Alex Odeh case. Neil Gallegher, head of the FBI's counter-terrorism unit, assured ADC that this investigation is still "a top priority of the Bureau." E. Michael Kahoe, Chief of the Violent Crime and Major Offender Section, is now in charge of the case. Alex Odeh, ADC's West Coast Regional Director, was murdered in 1985 when a trip-wire detonated a bomb as he entered ADC's Santa Ana office. The suspects in the assassination sought refuge in the West Bank Jewish settlement Kiryat Arba. One of the suspects, Robert Manning, was arrested last Fall in connection with a 1980 bombing murder in California.

Mokhiber, Nojeim and Alex Odeh's widow, Norma, met with the FBI again on April 29. As Mokhiber told *The Washington Times* in an April 30 article, "The American government is asking to interrogate American citizens on a

crime that occurred in America, and the Israeli government is preventing it...I think the FBI has done as much as it can do, but these people skipped the country. The Israeli government has been a major problem." Norma Odeh told *The Washington Times*, "It has been seven years and not much has been happening...My children ask me when will someone be arrested? We would like to see justice done."

The FBI reiterated that the Odeh case is a top priority. ADC pressed for more frequent updates on the case, and was assured that the FBI would institute an "open door policy" vis-a-vis contacts with ADC and Norma Odeh. FBI officials also said that the Odeh case would be reviewed bi-weekly by the Criminal Investigation Division and that a new agent would be asked to review the Odeh file, in the hope that a fresh perspective might identify new leads in the case. According to Nojeim, the meeting was one of the most productive and encouraging ADC has had with the FBI concerning the murder of Odeh.

On May 12, Nojeim and Mokhiber met with Dr. Richard Haas, White House Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs, and asked the Bush Administration to press Israel to cooperate with U.S. law enforcement officials in the investigation.

In spite of the fact that the U.S. and Israel have had an extradition treaty since 1962, the Israeli government is contending that Israeli nationals are exempt from extradition. The Mannings are dual U.S.-Israeli citizens. ■

Place Your Ad, Listing or Greeting in the Union of Palestinian Women's Associations in North America's 1992/1993 National Arab-American Directory

A Middle East peace and justice directory/ad book to be distributed in over 30 cities to institutions, businesses, community centers and more than 10,000 families. Includes:

- White pages listing Arab-American families
- Yellow pages listing Arab and non-Arab businesses
- Section of greetings and solidarity messages

Rates start as low as \$5 for listings up to \$500 for gold page ads. Free professional typesetting. Deadline to place an ad: June 1, 1992

Proceeds will support ongoing projects in the Occupied Territories.

Contact:

MECC/UPWA

440 Diane Drive

Manteca, CA 95336

Tel. (209) 823-2898

National Office News

ADC Meets at White House

On March 20, ADC President Albert Mokhiber and other Arab-American leaders met with Counsellor to the President for Domestic Policy Clayton Yeutter, Special Assistant to the President for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Haass and Assistant Secretary of State Edward Djerejian at the White House. They discussed U.S. foreign policy and the status of the Middle East peace talks, and Israel's latest invasion into Lebanon.

ADC Joins AILAF

In an effort to broaden the scope of our legal outreach, ADC has now joined the American Immigration Lawyers' Association Foundation. ADC is also on the board of directors of the National Immigration, Reform & Citizenship Forum, a coalition of community-based public interest organizations which advocate for immigration rights in the U.S., and ADC works with the National Lawyers' Guild on immigration rights.

Japanese Official Visits ADC

At the invitation of ADC, Japan's First Secretary for Political and Military Affairs to the U.S. Kuni Miyake visited the National Office on March 5. Secretary Miyake met with ADC President Albert Mokhiber, Dr. Haidar Abdul Shafi, head of the Palestinian Peace Delegation, ADC Director of Development Bert Keys and ADC student intern Takeshi Miyazaki. A wide range of topics was discussed including the global economy, current conditions in the Middle East and the Middle East peace talks. Japan, as a major world power, is a party to the multi-lateral talks. ADC expressed its solidarity and concern about the disturbing rise in hate crimes against Japanese-Americans and expressed its gratitude for the support given by the Japanese and Japanese-American communities to Arab-Americans during the Gulf Crisis and War. ADC sent out a press release which received generous coverage in Japan, wrote an editorial and several

solidarity letters and has made many statements to the media on the subject. Mokhiber found Secretary Miyake "very friendly with a great sense of humor." Miyazaki was instrumental in arranging the introductions. This was the first formal meeting between ADC and Japanese officials. It was so successful that ADC hopes that it was the prelude to a continuing dialogue when the new Japanese ambassador arrives to assume his duties.

Egyptian Human Rights Advocate Briefs Staff

Dr. Mohammed Mandour, head of the Committee on Health of the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights, described the work of EOHR to ADC staffmembers on March 26. Mandour was himself a political prisoner in Egypt for his work with EOHR during the Gulf War in the beginning of 1991. EOHR, the Egyptian branch of the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR), is a voluntary non-governmental organization which enjoys consultative status at the United Nations Economics and Social Council. Secular and non-sectarian, it follows the guidelines of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights conventions. There are 1,300 members in close to 20 locations and two regional committees. EOHR monitors human rights and mobilizes international support along the lines of Amnesty International, but its mandate includes all types of governmental and non-governmental human rights violations and acts of environmental pollution, as well as support for the rights of political prisoners. EOHR has scrupulously avoided partisanship and, much like the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), has taken flack from all sides for its work. EOHR has a former minister of foreign affairs, a former ambassador and two professional women on its board, and over 50% of its members are either lawyers or journalists. Dr. Mandour, with human rights advocates from nine other countries, recently presented at a conference at Columbia

University on local strategies on human rights.

Palestinian Women's Group Meets with ADC

Rania Bahnan and Brenda Shaver-Ghosheh from the Union of Palestinian Women's Associations in North America (UPWA) met with ADC staff during a lunch meeting on March 24.

UPWA was founded in 1986 to organize Palestinian women in the U.S. and Canada and to help new immigrants to integrate into American society. It is a community-based organization with 2,000 members and 30 chapters across the country. UPWA sponsors a number of community-based projects and initiated a family sponsorship program to provide relief to families in occupied Palestine.

UPWA is active with a number of U.S. and international women's groups and participated in the convention of the National Organization of Women (NOW) in January. They organized a well-received Middle East panel featuring Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, spokesperson of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, Dr. Nawal El Saadawi, an Egyptian author and physician, and Asma Khader, Esq., a Palestinian lawyer from Jordan. Bahnan and Shaver-Ghosheh reported that the convention was a major step forward, since this was the first time that NOW had seriously dealt with the rights of Palestinian women under occupation. UPWA has also worked in coalition with MADRE to distribute milk and medicine to Iraq and with the Palestine Children's Relief Fund to bring injured Palestinian children to the U.S. for medical treatment.

ADC Welcomes "Retired" Hostage

Former hostage Robert Polhill and his wife Ferial visited the ADC National Office on March 17.

"Since we got out," he said of the U.S. hostages, many of whom had been held in captivity in Lebanon for five or six years, "we've become reborn. We sort of



Robert and Ferial Polhill visited the ADC National Office in March

died when we went in." Polhill, who is undergoing treatment for throat cancer, has dedicated himself to organizations that are committed to "going out of business," or working on a problem which should eventually disappear, such as the American Cancer Society. He described his new outlook and dedication as "not radically changed" and asserted that, "Certainly, I was not shaken in my beliefs" during years of captivity.

He described an interview he had with Mike Wallace of CBS "60 Minutes." Wallace suggested that brainwashing, along the lines of the Stockholm Syndrome, might explain Polhill's sympathy for the plight of the Lebanese and Palestinians, to which Polhill quipped, "not enough psychiatrists have been held hostage." He said his young captors didn't try to win over the hostages and that they often argued with them. These hostages were not young or malleable, but men of experience who understood the history of the conflict in Lebanon and the reasons behind their miserable captivity, unjustifiable as it was. He noted that both Lebanese and Palestinians had been kidnapped during the civil war, and that most of them had "disappeared."

Polhill weighed only 100 pounds at the lowest point in his period of captivity. His wife, a Palestinian-Lebanese, remained in Beirut throughout the ordeal. She and friends placed an ad in a Beirut newspaper right after Polhill was

taken hostage, to notify his captors that he is a diabetic who requires insulin. During periods of heavy shelling, Polhill often went for days without insulin and became seriously ill. He has gained back forty pounds since his release and subsequent throat cancer operation.

It was Robert Polhill's sense of humor that sustained him through it all. "If you don't have a sense of humor, you don't come out right," he said, "and some didn't." When asked if the guards ever threatened to kill him, Polhill answered that they were always saying, "You do that once more and we'll kill you." He added with a twinkle in his eye, "You know, you do that to your kids."

At his release, a young captor simply said, "Congratulations. You're being released. Good luck and I'll be seeing you." Polhill exclaimed, "You'll what?" The Syrian Chief of Security, Ali Duba, whisked him to Damascus where his wife and the press awaited him. When safely in Damascus, Duba remarked that Polhill was finally looking a bit relaxed. Polhill replied, "That's because until an hour ago, I didn't know if you were the Syrian Chief of Security or another kidnapper!"

ADC President Meets with U.N. Secretary General

On March 30, ADC President Albert Mokhiber and other Arab-American leaders met with United Nations

Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali to discuss a number of issues of concern. Among them are: the continued Israeli occupations of Lebanon, Palestine and the Golan Heights and the need for U.N. peacekeeping troops to replace the Israeli Defense Forces in these areas; a request for U.N. action to compel Israeli cooperation with the U.S. for the extradition from Israel of three terrorist suspects in the Alex Odeh assassination of 1985; a request for humanitarian aid to the war-torn countries of Sudan and Somalia; and a request to lift the U.N.'s economic sanctions against Iraq to permit the rebuilding of its civilian infrastructure.

Department Re-Organizes

In April, ADC bid farewell to Organizing Assistant Sharon Samhat, who recently gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Previously Regional Organizer in ADC's Houston office, Samhat has been an active and dedicated member of ADC since 1982. The National Office staff and ADC chapters nationwide extend their best wishes.

Replacing Samhat is former ADC intern Omar Jabara. A longtime organizer and human rights activist, Jabara hails from London, Ontario, Canada, where he co-founded a chapter of the Canadian Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (CADC) in 1990 and was president of the Canadian Arab Society of London. While completing his bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of Western Ontario, Jabara was an executive officer and co-founder of ANSAR/the Arab Network of Students. His CADC chapter in London, Ontario, was active during the Gulf Crisis and War, combating discrimination and hate crimes against the Canadian Arab community.

Jabara has worked for many peace and justice causes including the anti-Apartheid movement, women's rights, Kurdish rights, the Native Canadian movement and Labor rights. He has also been active in provincial election campaigns for Members of Parliament. We all extend Omar a hearty welcome. ■

Outreach Update

Growing Support for Iraqi Civilian Relief

ADC co-sponsored a symposium on the plight of Iraqi children titled "The Effects of War on Children of the Middle East." The April 27 event, which attracted about 300 people, was co-sponsored by Pax Christi of Michigan and took place at the Mother of God parish hall in Southfield, Michigan. Speakers from organizations active in Iraqi relief efforts were Chris George of Save the Children and Jennifer Habte of Catholic Relief Services. Dr. Jonathan Fine of Physicians for Human Rights and Christine Z. Oram, an Iraqi-American who testified before Congress in March, also spoke movingly of children dying daily from lack of basic necessities. Slides of the ongoing human misery in Iraq were shown and all the speakers concurred with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) appeal to lift the sanctions. They asked concerned Americans to write their elected officials to work for this. The relief agencies reported that 170,000 children have died since the war began and another 900,000 are malnourished. An article about the symposium appeared in *The Detroit News* on April 28.

ADC is also assisting a broad network of organizations rallying around the issue of lifting the sanctions against Iraq to enable that country to rebuild its infrastructure with its own economic resources. A petition, "The War Is Not Yet Over: Lift Economic Sanctions against Iraq," has garnered the support of more than 35 organizations including the American Friends Service Committee, Pax Christi USA, Women Strike for Peace, New Jewish Agenda, and the Washington Peace Center. It also has celebrity endorsements from Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Nobel Laureate Professor George Wald and actor Mike Farrell. The petition reads in part, "The bombing war decimated Iraq's infrastructure. As the political debate lingers, the Iraqi people face life without sufficient food, clean water, or adequate medical care. A public health crisis continues unabated and the Iraqi civilian

population is paying the price for the unresolved international political debate." The petition was sent in early March to national peace and justice, church and human rights groups and leading activists. Copies were sent to members of the U.N. sanctions committee, the U.S. Administration and key Members of Congress. ADC is still collecting endorsements. Persons or organizations interested in joining this petition campaign, should contact ADC Outreach Director Larry Ekin.

ADC Meets at White House on Lebanon Concerns

On May 13, ADC President Albert Mokhiber and Director of Legal Services Gregory T. Nojeim raised several concerns with Richard Haas, Middle East advisor to President Bush. ADC called on the Administration, in view of Lebanon's current economic crisis to lift the U.S. travel ban to Lebanon, especially for Lebanese-Americans, to restore full commercial ties and allow Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, to resume flights to the U.S. ADC also asked that the U.S. consulate in Beirut be reopened and that the U.S. increase humanitarian aid to Lebanon. Finally, ADC called on the Administration to encourage enforcement of U.N. Resolution 425 which calls for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. In a May 13 news release, Mokhiber referred to a report the same day in *The New York Times* that the U.S. government plans to suspend all food aid to Lebanon. According to the *Times* article, unnamed Lebanese government officials said that the U.S. informed them that all aid will be cut by the end of 1992. A U.S.A.I.D. spokesperson, however, told the *Times* that the food aid would be phased out more slowly; 25% in 1992, 75% in 1993. A State Department spokesperson told ADC that that U.S. food aid to Lebanon "will continue at least through 1993." Mokhiber stated in the release, "When comparing the meager amounts of American aid to Lebanon with the obscene \$5.6 billion sent to Israel last year alone, we are once again amazed at this double standard. Given the

repeated acts of Israeli aggression against Lebanon, including another air strike this morning, Israel, not Lebanon, should be prohibited from receiving further American aid."

PHRIC Releases Report on Israeli "Death Squads"

The Palestine Human Rights Information Center in Jerusalem released a report titled *Targeting to Kill: Israel's Undercover Units* on May 11, 1992. The report concludes that "Israel is pursuing a policy of summary executions of Palestinians through undercover operations" and it "finds that the behavior of these units is synonymous with that of death squads." This is the first well-researched and systematic study of the 29 political killings and 44 gunshot injuries of Palestinians by these units in 1991. The victims were ambushed and shot at close range without any warning. Many were beaten to death in custody after being wounded; many were prevented from having the medical attention which might have saved their lives. Since January 1992, there has been a marked increase in attacks by Israeli security units disguised in civilian clothes, including traditional Palestinian clothing. The report is available from: PHRIC-International, 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 930, Chicago, IL 60640 or Larry Ekin, Director of Outreach, ADC, 4201 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20008.

In response to another killing on May 2 of Anton Louis Showmely, age 22, the people of Beit Sahour issued a May 3 letter, "The Fourth Cold-Blooded Killing in Beit Sahour," signed by 14 leading members of the community including Mayor Atrash. The letter called for an impartial international inquiry into this and other army killings. ■

Media Monitor

Is Prodigy Prodigiously Censoring Mideast Debate?

ADC supporters contacted the National Office's Media Department with complaints about censorship and bias by the Prodigy On-Line Information Service. It is a computer information and entertainment network that reaches approximately 1.4 million U.S. subscribers through their computer modems. Subscribers can "discuss" their viewpoints with each other privately or publicly by "posting" their "notes" on "bulletin boards." These notes are restricted by certain Prodigy guidelines, namely, that they should not contain: "obscene, profane, sexually explicit, or otherwise offensive material (i.e., material that is grossly repugnant to community standards, which includes blatant expressions of bigotry, racism or hate.)" Complaints to ADC centered around Prodigy's Arts Club Bulletin Board topic (non-fiction books) where subscribers posted notes on such subjects as "Arab and Jew," "Israeli Civil Rights" and "Palestinian Reality." One subscriber complained that the "board manager" on duty one day "returned," or censored, 35 of his notes, while sometimes his notes went for weeks without being censored. This led him to the conclusion that some of the board managers are not using objective and balanced criteria.

Tonnetta Oubari, one of the complainants, wrote in the June, 1992 issue of *The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, "Several notes critical of Israeli government policy were returned for being 'offensive' or 'insulting.' Other purely political comments were rejected for being 'primarily private in nature,' or 'substantially similar' to others the authors had previously posted. In fact, the messages were carefully documented criticisms of Israeli policy." Prodigy has been very careful to censor anti-Jewish comments on the public bulletin board, since the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith held a press conference about an anti-Jewish statement in a private electronic mail message. Anti-Arab comments, such as "all Arabs are liars," "Arabs' ancestors

shoveled camel chips," and "greasy Arab dollars," however, have been posted on the public bulletin board.

ADC President Albert Mokhiber addressed these concerns to Prodigy in a letter and several telephone calls. Prodigy Senior Vice President Henry Heilbrunn admitted that some of the notes brought to his attention by ADC had been censored without cause. Prodigy's Manager of Editorial Business Operations Bruce Thurlby attended the ADC convention panel on "Sensitivity without Censorship" in an effort to sensitize Prodigy about the issue. He also met Media Relations Coordinator Leila Gorchev at the National Office for a follow-up meeting on May 8. He described three ways in which a note could get returned: by "autoscanning" of the system for key offensive words (which he wouldn't disclose), by "alerts" or complaints by individual users to the board manager, or by "grey" areas where the board manager uses his or her personal discretion based on the Prodigy guidelines. Board managers also randomly sample notes. Thurlby noted a major flaw in the system—if one note in a discussion is found to be offensive and returned, then all subsequent notes or responses to it are also returned, even if they are not offensive themselves.

ADC members and supporters who are Prodigy users, are asked to monitor the system for fairness to see if an undue number of anti-Arab comments slip by the board managers/censors and if reasonable political discourse continues to be unduly censored. Although such a large system will always have a few gaps and glitches, a general pattern of bias can be documented if it does indeed exist. Prodigy users should send documentation of any bias and/or censorship to ADC's National Office. ADC Prodigy users should also take advantage of the alerts to board managers to censor any anti-Arab comments that they come across, thus fulfilling Prodigy's stipulated guidelines. If the bias lies with individual board managers, then ADC hopes that the Prodigy management will correct the problem to keep its system in line with

the "Prodigy philosophy" of being "committed to the ideals of open discussion...that reflects the diversity of our members."

Arab-Americans Branded Political Outcasts

An April 10, 1992 story by Jill Abramson in *The Wall Street Journal* attempted to malign Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar (D-OH) by claiming her views "on some key issues are at odds with some national party leaders: she...has ties to several Arab-American organizations." ADC sent out a news release and ADC President Albert Mokhiber sent a letter to the *WSJ* saying: "After twelve years of fighting negative stereotyping and discrimination against the Arab-American community, we were shocked and appalled by the article...Surely, *The Wall Street Journal* would refuse to print such a statement reviling any other public figure on the basis on his or her ethnic heritage. This double standard must stop. Certainly, had the ethnic group been of African or Hispanic descent such innuendoes would have been viewed, and rightfully so, as racist...Arab-Americans like all other Americans are, and should be, proud of their ancestry, culture and institutions." ADC called for the identities of Abramson's un-named "national party leaders," demanded that the National Democratic Committee come out publicly against such ethnic aspersions and demanded an apology from *The Wall Street Journal* for this irresponsible reporting.

Mokhiber sent off letters to *The Washington Post* and to Cleveland's *Plain Dealer* for similar attempts by those newspapers to single out Representative Mary Rose Oakar (D-OH) based on her ethnic background. A *Washington Post* article on April 19 about Congressional check overdrafts mentioned Oakar's "Lebanese and Syrian" ancestry, whereas none of the other Members of Congress was identified by ethnic background. Mokhiber wrote, "Given that Representative Oakar's ancestry has no relevance to the

redrawing of her district, to her Cleveland constituency, or to the check overdrafting, why was it included in the overview of her political experience? If Rep. Oakar's parents had come from Guam or had been Jewish, this information would not have been printed and rightly so. This double standard must stop."

ABC "Prime Time Live" Causes Uproar

ADC National Office contacted ABC "Prime Time Live" about a promotional piece for a segment on the murder by a Palestinian-American father and Brazilian-American mother of their daughter and the practice of "honor crimes," after many members called ADC about it. ADC was concerned that the segment, which aired nationally on

March 12, would unfairly insinuate that this kind of murder is particularly "Arab" or "Muslim." In a letter to Richard Kaplan, the Executive Producer, ADC President Albert Mokhiber offered to take part in a wrap-around segment or a follow-up story. A disclaimer, at the very least, was suggested, after consultations with Professor Elizabeth Fernea and other experts. ABC did introduce the segment with a disclaimer that "honor crimes" are not particular to Arab or Muslim culture, that it is a pre-Islamic practice still perpetuated in many rural Mediterranean areas, but the visual images of the segment were all Palestinian Muslim. ADC's Mokhiber sent a second letter protesting the segment and pointing out that the ethnic and religious background of the victim's mother, who took part in the killing, Brazilian

Catholic, were never mentioned, nor were Brazilian culture and Catholicism similarly targeted. Following a telephone discussion with Kaplan, Mokhiber sent a third letter, recommending that a more balanced program on family violence and crimes against women, in general, might be one way to broaden the issue. He cited the startling statistic that 30 percent of women murdered in the U.S. are killed by their partners. He also cited a recent high court decision in Brazil that overturned the acquittal of a man who had committed a "crime of honor," killing his wife and her lover. Evidently, "crimes of honor" are still practiced in Brazil. Other organizations protesting the "Prime Time Live" segment included the American Muslim Council and Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting. ■

ADC Releases 1992 Presidential Campaign Questionnaire

At a press briefing on April 2, 1992, ADC President Albert Mokhiber released the *ADC 1992 Presidential Campaign Questionnaire: Candidates Response*. This Special Report was compiled as a service to ADC's membership and supporters to assist them in determining the opinions of candidates in the 1992 presidential race.

The questionnaire is divided into four sections addressing the special concerns of Arab-Americans on civil rights, human rights, immigration and foreign policy issues. Sent in February, 1992, to the presidential candidates, the report includes direct responses from presidential candidates Larry Agran, Jerry Brown, Patrick Buchanan and President George Bush. Bill Clinton did not respond to the specific questions in the ADC Questionnaire, but sent excerpts from his Mideast-related speeches which ADC has included as Appendix I.

A sampling of questions and answers follows. To the question, "As President, would you support Palestinian self-determination and statehood?", Agran wrote in part, "I support Palestinian self-determination. Statehood is a status that the Palestinians must decide for themselves. This right must be secured as part of the Middle East peace conference process...The U.S. can also insist on fundamental rights for all peoples by using the various economic and diplomatic

tools at its disposal." Brown responded, "I support the peace process. We ought to be able to find ways where people can have the sense and the power of their own national identity, but are harmoniously integrated in regional economic and federal units." Buchanan wrote a lengthy response which partly read: "There will be no lasting peace in the region until the longing of the Palestinian people for a homeland is satisfied, accordingly we support the creation of a demilitarized Palestinian state..." Bush wrote back, "We support the Palestinian people realizing their legitimate political rights in a context that assures Israel's security. This Administration has launched a process designed to bring comprehensive, just and lasting peace between Israel and her Arab neighbors, including the Palestinians. We believe that such a peace should be based on United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of territory for peace." There was no direct response from Clinton; however, excerpts from his speeches read in part: "...I believe the President is wrong to use public pressure tactics against Israel...We need a broader policy toward the Middle East that...preserves our strategic relationship with the one democracy in the region: Israel."

In response to the civil rights question, "What steps would you take to curtail

infringements on constitutional rights and to guarantee and enforce First Amendment and civil rights protections for U.S. citizens, including Arab-Americans?", Agran responded, "In the case of FBI questioning of Arab-Americans, I would have called to the White House the Director of the FBI and demanded that he cease groundless interrogation of Arab-Americans simply because of their ethnic heritage." Brown, "I would appoint Supreme Court judges who are competent and who would protect the letter and intent of the United States Constitution." Buchanan wrote back, "There should be no compromise on first amendment rights or on civil rights as guaranteed by the Constitution. Protection of these rights is one of the primary duties of the President." Bush wrote, "I strongly support vigorous enforcement of all our civil rights laws. Moreover, I was pleased to sign into law both the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Americans with Disabilities Act..." Clinton didn't respond to any of the questions on civil rights, human rights or immigration; he only dealt with Middle East foreign policy issues in the speech excerpts sent by his staff.

ADC members interested in obtaining a copy of the *ADC 1992 Presidential Campaign Questionnaire: Candidates Response*, should contact the National Office. ■

Campus Corner

California Politechnic

Mabruk to ADC-California Politechnic for winning second place in "Poly View" on April 13. "Poly View" is one of the largest events on campus involving most student groups and attended by at least 5,000 people. The students sold books on the Arab world and displayed different artifacts and flags from Arab countries. The chapter earned second place award for their effort.

Indiana University

On March 29, eight ADC chapter members protested outside Balentine Hall before David Peled, a diplomat from the Israeli embassy, delivered a speech titled: "Israel Today." The event was sponsored by the pro-Israeli campus Hillel chapter. The protesters walked into the room during Peled's speech with signs reading "Free Palestine" and "No More Settlements." During the question-and-answer period, ADC student activists asked Peled various questions dealing with the treatment of Palestinians under Israeli occupation. "Peled was evasive," according to chapter president **Leila Kheiry**. On April 6, the chapter distributed ADC brochures and sold keffiyas and Palestinian cups made in Jerusalem. Kheiry entertained a group of six-grade students by performing traditional Middle Eastern dances. ADC activist **Ramzi Nasir** initiated an ADC-sponsored petition calling on Indiana University to freeze all relations with Israeli universities until Bir Zeit University is reopened. Copies of the petition statement with student and faculty signatures were sent to the President of Indiana University, the Israeli Embassy, Representative Lee Hamilton (D-IN), and Senators Dan Coats (R-IN) and Richard Lugar (R-IN).

Michigan State University

The MSU chapter has been working to become a member organization on the Student Council with voting rights on a wide range of student issues. On March 5, ADC and other student groups

sponsored a talk by Dr. Marc Ellis at the Student Union. Ellis, Director of the Justice and Peace Program at Maryknoll School of Theology in New York, spoke about "The Jewish Perspective on Solidarity with the Palestinian People." The event drew 75 students and faculty, in spite of the fact that all the posters advertising the talk had been pulled down, and it was covered in the campus newspaper, *The State News*. According to the article, Ellis said that the Jewish state uses its people's past as a "blunt instrument," claiming that the Jewish people have suffered more than any other people in history. He related that some Holocaust survivors and Israeli soldiers are now saying that they find themselves causing the same suffering that their people had once experienced. "We all know it, we, as Jews, know what's going on," Ellis said of treatment of Palestinians, "We lie to ourselves, we lie to others."

University of Delaware

Chapter contact **Dina Taha** presented a 10-minute segment about the devastation in Iraq and Israeli human rights abuses which aired on Wilmington's local cable television news channel 2 on March 8. The segment was titled, "U.S. Domestic & Foreign Policy—Two Failures?" ADC campus contact **George Shaer** distributed the ADC Action Alert on the \$10 billion loan guarantees and ADC convention brochures to students on campus and sent letters opposing the loans and Israel's illegal settlements to Senators William V. Roth (R-DE), Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Joseph Biden (D-DE) and to Representative David Obey (D-WI). On February 27, Shaer also gave a talk on the historical background of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to a class of 40 Senior high school students at Wilmington Christian High School. The student engaged in a healthy discussion with questions ranging from, "Do you think Israelis and Palestinians can ever live together in peace?" to "Why can't the Palestinians move to Jordan?" On March 5, the chapter presented the film, "Overview of the

Arab World," in Smith Hall to an audience of 60 students and on April 22 they presented "The Battle of Algiers" to about 40 students, followed by a discussion on democracy and Islamic fundamentalism. The chapter participated in the University of Delaware's "International Night" with a performance of Palestinian dance and a fashion show of dresses from Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Egypt, and, on April 10, took part in the university's "Culture Night" when over 300 people filled A.I. Dupont Music Center. The ADC chapter showed the film, "Inside the West Bank," on April 15 to 80 faculty members and students, followed by a panel discussion of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict by ADC's Taha, Julius Gordon of the Newcastle County Rainbow Coalition and Professor David Colton. Taha reported that there was "a good strong emotional response to the film," and noted that, "their awareness was raised concerning human rights violations in the Occupied Territories."

U of Michigan—Ann Arbor

The University of Michigan chapter was pleased when 75 students turned out for its March 27 lecture given by Dr. Ali Mazrui who holds the Albert Schweitzer chair of Humanities at SUNY-Binghamton. The event, which was held at the UM Rackham School of Graduate Studies, was co-sponsored by the campus chapter of the Palestine Solidarity Committee, the Baker-Mandela Center for Anti-Racist Education, the Office of Ethics and Religion, and the Caribbean People's Association. A leading expert on Africa, Dr. Mazrui spoke on the topic, "Apartheid is Dying, Zionism Persists: What are the Implications?" Chapter president **Maurice Adib** reported that many Arab-American students stopped by the ADC literature table and signed the mailing list. The chapter plans to develop its coalition-building after the success of this joint effort.

Dennis Denno: Focus on an ADC Campus Activist

A young Arab-American with fire and dedication is Dennis Denno, the president and founder of the ADC campus chapter at Michigan State University. Since 1990, the chapter has worked closely with the Arab Student Organization and the General Union of Palestinian Students on teach-ins and lectures. A major joint undertaking was a week of events in January 1992 to commemorate the victims of the Gulf War. Denno, an Iraqi-American, coordinated the week of events. He reported that the MSU students "were interested in finding out what's really going on. I hope that we led them in the right direction." He added that *The State News*, the student newspaper, now gives coverage to Arab-American concerns and its editorial views and reporting are becoming more balanced.

Denno, who hails from Farmington Hills, Michigan, came to Washington, D.C. in the summer of 1991 as an ADC student intern. He worked in the press office of Senator Donald Riegle, Jr. (D-MI), learning the ropes of politics in the nation's capital.

He remembers his ADC internship with enthusiasm and appreciates the opportunity it gave him to be of real service to his senator. While politics "inside the Beltway" usually seem very removed from student life, Denno soon

found himself coordinating the Senator's media coverage in Detroit for his awards presentation to four crime-fighting youths. Thanks to Denno's efforts, the ceremony attracted Detroit's major television, radio and press. Denno also created a database of organizations in Michigan that publish

American, he had the opportunity to see how Washington works. A senior majoring in Political Theory at Michigan State University, he hopes to pursue a career in politics or business and has applied to several Masters programs in Middle East Studies.

Denno began his student activism



Dennis Denno

newsletters and newspapers, breaking them down into categories such as Small Business, Veterans, Senior Citizens, and Agriculture. This has enabled the Senator to send out targeted news releases on topics of particular interest to these constituencies. Although Denno didn't work on anything Mideast-related, as a young Arab-

two years ago at Michigan State University when the administration arbitrarily decided to cancel the Arabic language programs. The administration claimed that the university was underfunded and understaffed and that there was insufficient student interest to warrant continuing the program. Denno and other concerned students formed the Arab Student Organization, protested in the student newspaper, and met with the administration to have them "open the books" on these courses. As it turned out, there was plenty of student interest, finding funding and faculty to teach the classes was easy, and the Arabic program continues today. He is now in his second year of Arabic, "taking the courses I helped to save."

Denno has been trying to get the MSU ADC campus chapter a seat on the student council, with voting rights on a wide range of student issues. The student council at MSU already has representation from African-American, Native American, Latino-American, and Asia Pacific-American organizations. In May, ADC-Michigan State is also planning events as part of Michigan's statewide Arab Culture Week. ■

He responded by saying: "What is this about Palestinian flags...there is not such a thing as a Palestinian flag. If they live in Israel, they should wave the Israeli flag." Knee is working on an annotated multi-media resource bibliography covering the Palestinian intifada.

Youngstown State University

The newly formed campus chapter at Youngstown State University elected Sahar Mawlawi as president. The chapter has already joined the Peace Council of Youngstown, a coalition of area peace and justice groups, and Mawlawi has been busy collecting signatures on a petition calling for ending the embargo against Iraq. ■

Campus continued

Wichita State University

Wichita State campus contact Signe Knee and Dr. James McKenny presented a lecture about Palestinian history to a liberal arts class on peace and war. McKenny covered Palestinian history from the Balfour declaration to the present. Knee discussed the contemporary Palestinian experience in the diaspora and under Israeli occupation. When Dr. Isha Ben Gad of the Israeli consulate in Chicago came to speak on campus, ADC chapter members posted flyers calling for a cessation of aid to Israel on the wall outside the lecture hall. Knee reported that a chapter member asked the Israeli diplomat if Palestinians had the right to wave their flag.

Chapter Reports

Albuquerque

ADC-Albuquerque members have been very active with New Mexico Taxpayers for a Better America (NMTBA), which has been creating quite a stir. On March 10, four large billboards were posted at major intersections into the city, targeting interstate traffic from New York to California, and from Canada to Texas. The billboards read: "America Yes, Israel No: Abolish the Cranston Amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill—Call Your Congressman." NMTBA, composed mainly of retired professionals from various ethnic backgrounds, raised \$9,000 for the billboards after running a successful radio, television and newspaper ad campaign against Israel's request for \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees. *The Albuquerque Journal* and *The Albuquerque Tribune* covered the billboards in a series of positive articles and editorials.

Atlanta

ADC activist **Aly Salem** presented a lecture on anti-Arab hate crimes at Emory University on February 27. ADC members were prominent at the February 29 gala event sponsored by the Arab-American Women's Society of Georgia (AASWG). The event, which took place at St. John's Melkite Catholic Church, featured a range of cultural presentations, including readings by **Dr. Abdallah Najjar** from the works of Kahlil Gibran and by **Sami Jajeh** on the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. ADC member **Ghada Muhanna** is the president of AASWG, which sponsors educational, cultural and social programs to promote the Arab cultural heritage and fellowship in Georgia. Those interested in joining the ADC Atlanta chapter are urged to contact Sami Jajeh at (404) 458-6625.

Austin

Mabruk to ADC-Austin for its highly successful fourth annual banquet which drew over 200 people to the Austin Crest Hotel on April 11. ADC President **Albert Mokhiber** was surprised

with a birthday cake and a Texas plaque from the chapter. ADC member **Bill Kelly** was honored as Man-of-the-Year, and longtime activist **Prof. Elizabeth Fernea** was honored "for all her unrelenting efforts in promoting the Arab culture and heritage." Other featured guests were City Council Member **Bob Larson** and State Representative **Glenn Maxey** (D-TX). The program included a social hour, a door prize drawing and Arabic music by the Houston-based band, "Sarab." The chapter wishes to extend special thanks to board members **Samar** and **Khalil Sakakini**, **Issam Bakir**, **Dr. Aziz Abbassi**, **Prof. Yvonne Khouri**, **Dr. Rev. Don Bobb**, **Vickie Mencico** and **Dr. Mohamed Al-Hajj** for helping to make the banquet a success. ADC-Austin is also grateful to those who sold banquet tickets, promoted the banquet and donated gifts for the drawing.

On April 1, chapter members **Khalil Sakakini**, **Dr. Saleem Zidani**, **Hugh Moore**, **Kelly** and **Bobb** met with the editorial board of *The Austin Statement* to protest an editorial about Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees. The editorial staff promised that the paper would make an effort to publish ADC's views, in the interest of fair and balanced journalism. The chapter has been busy working to oppose the \$10 billion requested by Israel. On April 15, ADC-Austin members were among the 150 people in the KLRU studios for a nationally televised "teleconference" which followed a screening of the film, "The Struggle for Peace: Israelis and Palestinians," produced by Professor **Elizabeth Fernea** of the University of Texas at Austin and **Steve Talley**. KLRU, the Austin PBS affiliate, ran the live call-in panel discussion as part of the PBS Adult Education Program which aired that day. Panelists included **Judith Blanc**, **Dr. Naomi Chazan**, **Dr. Herbert Kelman**, **Dr. Rashid Khalidi**, **Dr. Salim Tamari**, **Dr. A.R. Norton** and **Dr. Norman Stillman**.

Connecticut

The Connecticut chapter held board elections during its April 12 meeting,

and would like to welcome its new president, longtime ADC-Connecticut activist **Sameer Hassan**, vice presidents **Joan Kenney** and **Father Simon Harak, S.J.**, treasurer **Juliette Hassan**, and secretary **Phyllis Moore**. **George Hajjar** was elected media director, while **Nabil Amarah** continues as political director. ADC-Connecticut members **Ed Tomey** and **Munir Farah** have been very active in local and state politics. Tomey is a Danbury Zoning Commissioner and Farah is running on the Republican ticket for state representative from the 108th district. **Mohamed** and **Toni Asheh** just returned from a trip to occupied Palestine.

Dallas

Dallas chapter president **Katie Bayoud** flooded her elected officials with letters after she and her husband **Munir** returned from a three-month trip to occupied Palestine. Bayoud contacted Senators **Lloyd Bentzen** (D-TX) and **Phil Gramm** (D-TX), Representatives **John Bryant** (D-TX), **Sam Johnson** (R-TX), **Dick Armey** (R-TX) and **Tom Foley** (D-WA) and President **Bush** and Secretary of State **Baker**, to say, "I am totally appalled by the feverish attempt to obliterate the last remnant of Palestinian habitation and culture in the country. Every land-grab is carefully calculated to tighten the noose around the enclaves of Palestinian occupants and then burrow inside the remaining "ghetto" areas of Palestinians to change the demographics in favor of the settler population. A secondary goal is to transfer to the Israeli economy any asset that could assist the Palestinian economy to survive." Rep. Bryant responded that he will continue to call for aid cuts to Israel "...because it is no longer possible not to conclude that these settlements are wrong." She also met with Representative **Martin Frost** (D-TX) about the loan guarantees and domestic needs.

Denver

ADC's Denver contact **Hamzi Moghrabi** organized a banquet on February 28 attended by 180 people. Former hostage Thomas Sutherland was a featured guest and special recognition was given to **Dr. Lou** and **Mrs. Georgette Ashkar** for their service to the Arab-American community. The banquet took place at the Hyatt Regency, and entertainment was provided by Hani Fakhoury's band. The chapter would like to thank **Nabil** and **Norma Cherabie**, **Khalid** and **Marty Murbe**, **Walid** and **Suzanne Maaliki**, and chapter treasurer **Michel Haneen** for making the banquet such a success.

Moghrabi consulted with the Denver Department of Education about a cultural diversification program for teachers aimed at eradicating discrimination against minorities. He said the only reference to Muslims, prior to his action, was about "Muslims killing Hindus." The chapter is following up on Colorado University's annual "Conference on World Affairs," which was held April 17-21. Conference organizers chose a bellydancer to discuss Islam, a Kuwaiti to speak about Palestinians, and three Israelis and a U.S. State Department official to cover the Middle East peace talks. ADC-Denver expressed its concern about the lack of balance in the program and offered to serve as a resource for future programs.

Chapter activist **Pam Shannon** arranged showings for two films, "Nazareth in August" and "Native Sons," on the 90's Channel cable access television station during the week of March 9-15. The films were aired continuously throughout the week. Airtime on the 90's Channel, which presents alternative viewpoints, is free of charge, however, programs must be pre-approved. More than a half million people have access to the 90's Channel in six states, from Maryland to California. This is an excellent way for the community to reach the general public. ADC activists who would like to use the 90's channel, which is headquartered in Chicago, should call (303) 649-6411.

Detroit

Racism in Detroit is on the rise, and ADC members and staff have been active on a number of fronts to combat it.

Regional Organizer **Zana Macki** provided details on anti-Arab racism in the workplace for a *Detroit News* story on the increase of hate crimes in various ethnic communities. She told of an Arab-American who was employed at National Steel for 20 years, and forced to endure verbal harassment by both co-workers and management. Macki is also dealing with racial conflict in the ongoing cross-district busing dispute in Dearborn, speaking out at town meetings on the issue. The conflict has been covered by *The Detroit News*, *The Detroit Free Press*, and local television stations, and is now before the school board pending a decision.

A protest was also launched against an anti-Arab slur in an ad run in *The Detroiter*, the newsletter of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce. The ad, titled "The Phone Sleuth," read: "The scene is a seedy neighborhood teaming with tattered immigrants from the Middle East. They line up outside a public phone booth, pay \$5 to a faceless man who connects them for five minutes with relatives anywhere in the world." Macki sent a letter to the Chamber of Commerce and attended a March 6 meeting along with Michelle McWilliams of the Chaldean Federation of America. The Detroit Chamber of Commerce promised to follow-up with a positive story profiling a local Chaldean family business and a Muslim family business. The Asian Journalists Association wrote a letter-to-the-editor in solidarity with the Arab-American community in *The Detroiter*, which has a circulation of 3,000.

On April 6, Macki met with officials at ABC-TV affiliate WXYZ Channel 7 about a possible employment discrimination case. Arab-American news editor, Ron Nader, asserts that he was fired after 20 years of service because of his ethnic origin. Nader alleges that he was referred to as "the Saddam Hussein of WXYZ" and that an offensive poster with a bedouin and a profane message was placed in his office. Channel 7 officials claim they didn't know Nader was an Arab-American, and denied knowledge of the racial slurs and the poster. ADC-Detroit is conducting its own investigation and has so far found one insider who saw the poster.

On another front, WXYT Radio was recently contacted about the dangers of inciteful rhetoric, when ADC's Macki

called to protest exclamations of "Let's bomb Libya!" Responding to Macki's concerns, WXYT's Pat Sheehan said, "We're not going to blackball our hosts from expressing their opinions." Macki then contacted New Detroit Inc. and the Jewish Community Council, both of which have protested racial slurs from WXYT in the past. She also compiled a list of WXYT's advertisers and set up a meeting with Representative John Dingell (D-MI) to discuss the matter. Dingell has expressed concern about increased incidents of racism and sexism on the airwaves. On April 23, Detroit chapter president **Gary Beydoun**, **Jessica Daher** and Macki met with Representative John Conyers' (D-MI) office to discuss a nationwide rise in employment discrimination.

Beydoun, who also heads up the Education Subcommittee, is working on educational materials, workshops and speaking engagements to foster a better understanding of Detroit's Arab-American community.

Flint, MI

ADC's Flint, MI chapter is on the move! On February 27, the chapter held a well-attended general meeting at Walli's East Supper Club, to discuss ADC's work to promote civil rights and efforts to oppose the Israeli loan guarantees. A question-and-answer session followed presentations by ADC member and chairman of the Heritage Council **Anthony Mansour** and Regional Organizer **Zana Macki**, and honored guests included **Sam Farah** and **Jack Hamady**. More than \$1000 were raised for an ad campaign against the \$10 billion that ran in the *Flint Journal* on March 15 and in the Flint Area Newspapers: *Suburban News*, *Flushing Observer*, *Grand Blanc News*, *Clio Messenger*, and *West Valley News*. Stressing domestic spending needs, the ad urged Michiganders to: "Call Congress. Stop Loan Guarantees for Israel."

Hawaii

ADC activist **Saleem Ahmed** had a letter-to-the-editor published in the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* titled, "Inouye should back up loan with his own cash." Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) had claimed that the \$10 billion loan guarantees requested by Israel

wouldn't cost U.S. taxpayers a dime. Ahmed wrote: "Inouye asserts that Israel has never defaulted—forgetting that he has helped convert previous loans to grants, saving Israel from defaulting, but putting us deeper in the red...If anything, Inouye should plead for loan guarantees for our state and local governments to help provide even half-decent housing for our poor, let alone the luxurious quarters he has already spent our tax dollars to build in Israel. Or has he forgotten whom he represents?"

Houston

On March 19, ADC-Houston and Rice University co-sponsored a slide presentation featuring ADC member **Dr. Karim Al-Kadhi**, who discussed post-war conditions in Iraq. Dr. Al-Kadhi is a professor at the University of Houston and a member of Medicine for Peace and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The event took place at Rice University's Farnsworth Pavilion, and was the most successful event to date offered by the Rice Student Forum.

The chapter has also been busy combatting anti-Arab stereotypes and defamation. During the dedication of a Christopher Columbus memorial in Houston, Henry Nielson of the mayor's office commented, "We should celebrate Christopher Columbus's accomplishments for persisting in his effort to come to this world because, think how it would be if Muslims had beaten him here. We would be living under an Eastern culture, that would be horrible!" Chapter president **Yasmena Samahy** responded with an erudite and informative letter to enlighten Nielson on the racist nature of his remarks, and on April 16, she contacted a local costume company to request that they withdraw an offensive Arab costume. Samahy also expressed her deep disappointment, "as an American of Arab descent" and a "Bush/Quayle delegate from Texas," to Marilyn Quayle about her new novel, *Embrace the Serpent*. The book, written by the wife of Vice President Dan Quayle, casts all its Arab characters as stereotypical villains and deals with an imaginary Arab/Muslim plot to take over the world. Samahy wrote, "I appreciated President Bush taking time during the Gulf Crisis to abhor Arab-bashing...This is why I was shock-

ed and disappointed to see your novel...I feel betrayed by the Republican party and the White House since your book emanates from the highest office in the land...I hope you will remove your novel from the market rather than contribute to more racism against us or include in every copy a complete list of positive contributions to civilization from the Arab world..." To that end, Samahy offered Quayle a "Who's Who" list of Arab-Americans. Chapter activist **Adil Malahmeh** contacted KRIV-TV Fox Channel 26 in Houston to protest an anti-Arab children's show which aired on March 12. The episode of "Small Wonder," a syndicated re-run, featured an Arab sheikh with five wives who claimed that according to Arab custom, men give their wives away as gifts. The sheikh hoped to add the hero's little sister to his harem. In addition, the show used the anti-Arab slur, "camel jockey." After viewing the episode, KRIV's program director Roz Brown apologized, and promised that the offensive segment would not be aired again.

ADC members **Farha Ahmed** and Samahy were Republican delegates to the district Senatorial convention on March 28 and both were made alternate delegates to the state convention.

Thanks to the efforts of chapter organizers, ADC President Albert Mokhiber was in great demand during a trip to Houston April 12-14. On April 12, he was a guest speaker on Pacifica Radio's "Arabic Hour." The following day he was interviewed by Rice University's radio station, KULF, and gave a guest lecture during Dr. Mehdi Abadi's Islamic Studies class. Following a luncheon with students, Mokhiber met with members of the Muslim Student Association, and later spoke to students at Grand Hall about "Equality and Arab-Americans: Civil Rights, Stereotyping and Media Bias." The events were sponsored by the Rice Students Speakers Forum and the Rice Students Center. At the University of Houston, Mokhiber gave a presentation on "Stereotyping of Arab-Americans," that was co-sponsored by New Generation for Palestine and Peace Links and was funded by the Council of Ethnic Organizations. Also on April 13, Houston steering committee members **Hasan Dabbouseh**, **Karam Abuhamdan**, **Reem** and **Marwan Atalla** and Yasmena and Ibrahim

Samahy attended the annual dinner of the United Nations of Houston (U.N.-Houston). ADC activist and U.N.-Houston member **Fred Breckbill** hosted a breakfast for Mokhiber on April 14, which drew chapter members and representatives of U.N.-Houston, Beyond War, the Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Church, and St. Thomas University. Afterwards, Mokhiber discussed anti-Arab stereotyping and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on "The Roger Gray Show," a television talk show.

Los Angeles

ADC Regional Organizer **Nazih Beyda** and attorney **Simon Michael** have been working on the case of a 26-year-old Palestinian student detained as a security threat. Abdallah Hjazin, was accused, in an anonymous letter, of threatening President Bush's life and held for more than a month in a maximum security prison on \$75,000 bond. After six weeks in detention, Hjazin was finally released in April on a \$2,000 bond for a lesser visa violation. No evidence was found to corroborate the letter, and Michael said, in a *Los Angeles Times* interview, that he believed the letter had been sent by Hjazin's former roommate on a personal grudge. "Because he's an Arab, I think they're treating him with a different standard," Michael said, "It's an open invitation to anyone with a dispute with an Arab to send something in the mail. The authorities will say he's an Arab and they'll probably think he's a terrorist." Hjazin was sent to the INS detention facility in Florence, Arizona, and Michael asserts that the transfer was done maliciously to make it more difficult for him to represent his client. This case echoes the "L.A.-8" case of 1987, when seven Palestinians and a Kenyan were arrested and detained for disseminating information the U.S. government deemed "subversive."

Chapter board member **Hala Yahya** and activist **Sami Kandah** served on the organizing committee for a civil rights conference titled "Beyond the Japanese American Redress: Civil Rights in the 1990s." Sponsored by the Japanese American Cultural Community Center, the Japanese American Citizens League and other organizations, the event took place March 7 at UCLA's Ackerman

Union, and dealt with a range of issues, including sexual harassment, media images and political empowerment. "L.A.-8" defendant Julie Mungai addressed a workshop on "National Security and Civil Rights."

ADC's Beyda recently helped the parents of an 11-year-old boy who suffered from police misconduct in Northridge. The boy was approached by a police detective at his junior high school and picked up for questioning five months after he allegedly kicked a car in the school parking lot. The policeman released boy to his parents without providing any information on the incident or potential charges, and threatened to pick him up the next day if he didn't pay \$500. The boy, who is a diabetic, was rushed to the hospital after his release. At the parents' behest, Beyda contacted the lieutenant in charge, and received an apology for the officer's "irregular conduct."

Chapter president **Don Bustany** recently sent a letter to Simon & Schuster publishers to protest an anti-Arab passage in a high school textbook dealing with democracy that read: "An ancient Arab proverb tells us that it is better to knock heads together than to count them. In effect, it suggests that we are more likely to find out what is inside those heads by breaking them open than we are by simply counting them. But, again, and most emphatically, democracy does believe in counting them." Bustany asked the publishers to provide ADC with documentation of the proverb's authenticity, which they couldn't do. While Simon & Schuster refused Bustany's request that they provide distributors with self-adhesive tapes to conceal the offensive paragraph, they did promise to omit the passage from future printings. Bustany also challenged KDOC-TV about two objectionable commercial segments for Downey Ford.

On March 5, board member **Lillian Bitar** was well-received by a history class of 40 students at Concord High School. She discussed a range of issues including Middle East peace talks, the Gulf War, and the richness and diversity of the Arab world. Given the success of Bitar's talk, the chapter plans to develop a city-wide educational program.



"New Hampshire Sunday News" writer Pat Hammond (r) chats with chapter member Philip Lajeunesse at an "iftar" dinner

New Hampshire

Ramadan provided ADC's New Hampshire chapter a great opportunity to invite the local community to share the spiritual values of Islam and the Arab world. Fifty ADC friends and members of the press were treated to Middle East delicacies at an *iftar* dinner hosted by **Tedi and Nabil Atiya** on March 19. *New Hampshire Sunday News* staff writer Pat Hammond wrote a feature article published March 22, and remarked, "...this particular feast is an expression of Ramadan's spirit of celebrating unity, and the exotic and specially-prepared dishes are offered up in that spirit." On March 27, WGOT-TV aired a special report on Ramadan which included coverage of Friday prayers at New Hampshire College in Hooksett, a traditional *iftar* meal and interviews with Nabil Atiya and chapter president **Nabil Migalli**. New Hampshire Public Radio (WEVO) ran a story on Ramadan twice on April 3, which included a reading from the Qur'an and interviews with Nabil Migalli and the Atiyas.

As part of ADC-New Hampshire's educational outreach, Nabil Migalli made a presentation on "Egypt and the Arab World" to third grade students at Bedford Memorial School on March 20. On April 3, Nabil and **Anne Migalli** represented Egypt with a display table of educational materials and handicrafts at Students' Multicultural Day

sponsored by the New Hampshire Department of Catholic Schools. The program, "Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms," drew 250 students from across the state, and took place at the Immaculate Conception Community Center in Nashua. On April 10, Nabil Migalli spoke to a class of 30 second graders at Green Acres School in Manchester about Egypt, the Arab world and the Arabic language. He reported that the children especially liked writing "backwards."

The chapter continues its outreach to community groups, and Nabil Migalli was nominated to serve on the Greater Manchester Community Housing Resource Board as a volunteer representing ADC-New Hampshire. On April 9, he represented ADC at a meeting of the Middle East Standing Committee of the New Hampshire Action for Peace and Lasting Security. ADC's **Zaha Boustami** dialogued with Jewish-American activist Hilda Silverman about prospects for peace in the Middle East at the Peterborough Unitarian Church on April 14. ADC member and church rector **Rev. David Van Strien** introduced the program which was co-sponsored by the Monadnock Peace Fellowship, the Social Concerns Committee of the Unitarian Church and the Monadnock Meeting of the Society of Friends. ADC-New Hampshire joined the Citizens Budget Campaign for an April 15 Tax Day demonstration outside the post office in Hampshire Plaza.

They distributed CBC leaflets and called on the U.S. to redirect foreign military aid to domestic needs.

Northern New Jersey

ADC-Northern New Jersey members attended a fundraiser to benefit the Gaza Center for Rights and Law on March 14 at the home of **Muhammad Ilewat**. Special guest was **Raji Sourani**, director of the center, and the 1991 recipient of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award. On March 21, members attended a fundraiser in Watchung at the home of **Dr. Abdallah and Reem Taha** to benefit the reconstruction of the Dheishah Health Center which was destroyed by arson. The Tahas served an "iftar" dinner for 60 guests and raised close to \$5,000. Chapter president **Kay Askari**, **Rheem Taha**, **Salwa Siyam**, and **Margaret Nesheiwat** have provided moral and emotional support while visiting four young Iraqi children brought to the area for open heart surgery.

As part of Professional Day on Inter-cultural Relations, twenty-five high school teachers participated in a workshop on Islam led by **Siyam** and **Askari** at **Leonia High School** on March 13. Local Muslim parents prepared a special luncheon for 125 teachers attending the day's events. On March 15, chapter members took part in an ecumenical service to lift the sanctions against Iraq at a Presbyterian church in New York City.

North Carolina

Close to 400 people attended an address by former U.S. Attorney General **Ramsey Clark** on March 31. The address, titled "Human Costs of the Gulf War," was held at the University of North Carolina and co-sponsored by ADC-North Carolina. **Clark** discussed the extent of civilian casualties in Iraq and the lack of adequate and balanced media coverage. The event was co-sponsored by a broad range of peace, justice and faith-based organizations.

Arab-Americans were well-represented and vocal at North Carolina's Democratic and Republican precinct meetings held on March 5. ADC members **Dr. Burhan** and **Mrs. Manar Ghanayem** were elected delegates to the Durham County Democratic Party

Convention representing the 34th Precinct. **Dr. Mohamed** and **Mrs. Mary Qasim** of Chapel Hill were also elected delegates to the Democratic Party Convention, while **Dr. Jamil Fayez** of Winston-Salem was elected a delegate to his county's Republican Convention. These delegates along with **Ibrahim Ghanem**, **Nidal Daher** and chapter vice president **Cynthia Aziz**, submitted two resolutions dealing with Palestine and the need to convert military aid to domestic spending. Both resolutions were passed at these meetings.

Students at North Carolina State University (NCSU) oppose the \$10 billion loan guarantees to Israel by 75 percent, according to a poll taken of 300 students on February 6 and 7. ADC North Carolina activist **Wael Masri**, as part of the Committee for American Understanding of the Middle East, conducted the survey, which was featured in a cover story in the February 21 issue of the *Technician*.

Philadelphia

More than 200 guests were enthralled by keynote speaker **Dr. Clovis Mak-soud**, former Arab League ambassador, at the chapter's 10th annual banquet on March 21. The event, held at the Concordville Inn, also featured ADC President **Albert Mokhiber** and **James Fine** of the American Friends Service Committee who gave a report on a recent fact-finding trip to Iraq. An exhibit of artwork by Iraqi children was displayed by **Sue Markey** of the Canadian Friends Service Committee, and chapter president **Nawal Ayoub** gave a summary of the year's activities. Philadelphia City Councilman **Angel Ortiz** was honored for his work on behalf of the local Arab-American community. Extending thanks to activist **Marwan Kreide**, **Ortiz** charmed the audience with anecdotes about his experiences while growing up in Puerto Rico and during a trip to the Middle East. **John Paterson**, representing Congressman **Curt Weldon** (R-PA), encouraged attendees to practice their voting rights. Author **Kathryn Abdul-Baki** was on hand to sign copies of her new book, *Fields of Figs and Olives*, and copies of *Palestine—A Photographic Journey* by **George Baramki Azar** were also available.

The chapter wishes to give well-deserved thanks **Nawal** and **Naim**

Ayoub, Master of Ceremonies **Dr. Sherin Abdel-Meguid**, **Sarah Alfadl**, **Joan Hazbun**, **Ruth Matson**, and **George** and **Sophie Shahwan** for organizing a very successful banquet.

Phoenix

In March, ADC-Phoenix focused considerable attention on cultural festivals and fairs. The Irish and International Festival, which took place from March 14-15, invited ADC to have a Middle Eastern food booth, always a popular attraction, and on March 28, chapter president **Fred Abood** was a featured speaker at the annual Phoenix Peace Fair. ADC was well-represented at these two events thanks to the hard work of Cultural Committee Chairperson **Jumana Hadeed**, **Fred** and **Judy Abood**, **Ilham Dagon**, **Steve** and **Hiam Arkawi**, **Selim Hammoud** and **Maen Areikat**.

Under the guidance of **Farouk Al-Hashimi**, the chapter's Employment Coordinating Committee has already reported success in helping members of the Arab community find jobs. On the education front, **Jumana Hadeed** is working with the Tempe School District to create a folktale book about Arabic culture, while **Ilham Dagon** continues to teach Arabic classes through the Park Service. Chapter members **Abood**, **Hammoud**, **Ramsey Madany**, and **Anne Heyne** continue to voice their opinion in local newspapers, and outreach chair **Max Pervaiz** attended a meeting of Peace Initiatives, a dialogue group of Arab and Jewish Americans, on March 26.

Chapter media director **Areikat** had a letter-to-the-editor published in *The Phoenix Gazette* on March 9. He wrote: "The United Nations' decision to consider Zionism a form of racism was taken due to the racist policies the Israeli government practiced...The U.N.'s recent vote to rescind the decision was the result of huge political pressure exerted by the United States, not because the U.N. believed Zionism is no longer a form of racism."

On March 19, **Abood** had a letter published in *The Arizona Republic*, titled "Israel should tell the world where its borders lie." **Abood** argued that "The acquisition of land by force is forbidden by international law," and concluded, "Israel's right to exist within secure and

recognized borders is an impossibility for the Arab states to affirm until those borders are established and recognized by the international community." Abood also had a laudatory letter published to the editorial staff of *The Phoenix Gazette* for printing an opinion piece by former Mossad agent Victor Ostrovsky who condemned Israel's drift to the right. Areikat sent a letter to ABC's "Nightline" and "World News Tonight" to protest numerous inaccuracies in correspondent Dean Reynolds' reporting from Jerusalem, including a reference to Palestinians in East Jerusalem as "Palestinians in Israel."

San Antonio

San Antonio members Dr. Bill Rogers, Adnan Ismail, Dr. Harbi Shadfan and chapter president Mohsen Jouini met with Representative Albert Bustamante (D-TX) to express their opposition to the \$10 billion for Israel.

When a young Arab-American television reporter was fired by KMOL-TV for asking President Bush a question the station claimed was "aggressive and insulting," ADC members came to his defense. In February, Brian Karam, winner of numerous journalism awards, had questioned the President about the success of the Drug Summit attended by seven Latin American presidents in San Antonio. ADC's Jouini contacted the station to express outrage for punishing a reporter for doing his job and requested that the station reinstate Karam. The station refused, charging that Karam used his position for self-promotion. ADC-San Antonio immediately contacted the Communications Workers of America (CWA) which offered support on the case. The Peace and Justice Center in San Antonio was instrumental in organizing a demonstration in front of KMOL that drew more than 60 people and was covered by all San Antonio area newspapers and television stations. Since then, a number of stations have contacted Karam with job offers.

With the assistance of Mohsen Jouini, Representatives Albert Bustamante (D-TX) and Henry Gonzalez (D-TX) saw that a local Palestinian family was granted permission to return the remains of a loved one to Palestine for burial.

ADC-San Antonio received a laudatory letter from Bexar County Hospital for donating blood for Awad Abdelrazzaq, a patient in the SICU unit. Blood Bank Coordinator Cindy Moreno told the chapter that its generous donation also helped replenish the hospital's blood bank supply.

San Francisco

ADC chapter members and Arab-American activists launched a successful campaign in April to protest a defamatory billboard ad placed by KFOG-FM radio station. The San Francisco Human Rights Commission and the Arab-American Democratic Club also protested the ad, which was withdrawn in late April.

Washington, D.C.

On March 27, ADC-Washington co-sponsored a dinner and letter-writing event at Espresso Cafe to commemorate "Land Day," the 1976 uprising by Palestinian citizens of Israel over Israeli expropriation of Palestinian land. The event, which drew 60 people, was co-sponsored by the Union of Palestinian Women's Associations (UPWA) and featured brief remarks by ADC-Washington chapter president Samer Burgan and a representative from the Academic Freedom Network. On April 10, the chapter co-sponsored another event with UPWA and the Naim Foundation at the American University to benefit the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund (PCRF). The event raised more than \$1,200 and drew close to 100

people. Featured speakers included Christie Sosebee of PCRF, Richard Curtiss of American Educational Trust, Khalil Jahshan of the National Association of Arab-Americans, and Tareq Ghosheh, an 18-year-old Palestinian wounded during the 1990 Haram Al-Sharif massacre.

The D.C. chapter has been quite active in campaign politics and local primaries. Samer and Marwan Burgan were elected delegates to the Democratic National Convention, and ADC members are active in both parties in the Washington metropolitan area. ADC-Washington would also like to welcome two new executive committee members, Omar Kamhieh and Roger Harb.

Woodstock, NY

ADC-Woodstock, as part of the Ulster County Alliance for Peace & Justice, helped organize a conference on "Communities in Crisis: Where Do We Go from Here?" The event, which drew 300 people, took place on April 5 at the Ulster County Community College campus. It featured workshops, presentations and a keynote address by consumer advocate Ralph Nader. Nader said he is unwilling to run for president until grassroots political activism becomes stronger with more citizen involvement for a true democracy. ADC chapter president Cheryl Qamar and Haidar Chamas helped organize the workshops which covered a range of international and domestic issues, including discrimination against Arab-Americans. ■



ADC-Phoenix hosted a food booth at the International Festival in March

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