THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE for Palestinian Human Rights

2435 Virginia Ave. NW • Washington, DC 20037
(202) 342-8347

ANNUAL REPORT - 1989

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Gail Homesack
President

Robert Listou
VP, Secretary - Treasurer

Jeremy Levin
Journalist and former hostage in Lebanon
World Peacemakers

Cynthia Johnson
Women Strike for Peace

Reverend Jeanne MacKenzie
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Washington, D.C.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M.
Professor of Biblical Studies
The Catholic University of America

Brother Austin David, F.S.C., PhD.
Director of Information
Catholic Near East Welfare Association, New York

Samih Farsoun, PhD.
Professor of Sociology
American University

Mary Gray, PhD.
Professor of Mathematics/Statistics
American University

Peter Gubser
Director, American Near East Refugee Aid

J. Bryan Hehir
Senior Research Scholar
Kennedy Institute for Ethics

Father Verlanes Kalaygian
St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church, Washington, D.C.

Reverend George D. McClain
Executive Director
Methodist Federation for Social Action

Steve McKindley-Ward
Sojourners magazine

Richard McSorley, S.J.
Director, Center for Peace Studies
Georgetown University

Father Joseph Nangle, O.F.M.
Conference of Major Superiors of Men

Joseph Schechla
Director, EAFORD

Hisham Sharabi, PhD.
Professor of History
Georgetown University

Joseph Stork
Editor, MERIP
Washington, D.C., New York

Reverend Gordon Webster
Presbyterian Church, Oneida., N.Y.

Organizations listed for identification purposes only.

AAPHR was formed in 1987 out of moral outrage regarding violations of Palestinian human rights. The founders of this non-profit educational corporation recognized that many organizations are advocates of Palestinian human rights. We believed, however, that there may be ways to complement their activities. We wanted to enhance their ability to affect public policy regarding the Middle East. Information flow was perceived as the key issue. We saw a need for a non-ethnic, non-political, information clearinghouse intended to:

(1) increase the awareness of the Palestinian human rights issue by persons who are relatively uninformed, and

(2) cause our national leaders to respond more adequately to the human rights violations experienced by the Palestinian residents of the territories occupied by Israel.

Education through modern communications technology was chosen as our modus operandi. In 1989 we installed a computer-based voice information service (VIS). Persons calling our office from a touch tone phone can select a variety of messages - news from the Occupied Territories, excerpts from human rights reports, information about pertinent organizations/publications/federal officials, a calendar of events, and more. In late 1989 the software was improved, and the much simpler VIS was expanded to include *Viewpoints*.

Our plan is that prominent persons will record on the VIS brief statements of their views regarding our national posture concerning Palestinian human rights.

Excerpts of those *Viewpoints* will be published as Bulletins, which will be distributed to all Congressional offices.

Because the VIS is a public medium, AAPHR is no longer a membership organization. There is, however, still a need for donations. The work of AAPHR continues to be done by volunteers, but there are costs for telephones, postage, computer equipment, and office supplies. Funds for publicity are essential. Our ability to perform is limited only by the amount of contributions we receive.

Our advisory board become our editorial board in 1989, and our board of directors was expanded. Joining us were Jerry Levin, the journalist who was the first American hostage in Lebanon, and Cynthia Johnson, who heads legislative affairs at the Washington office of Women Strike for Peace. The expanded board of directors adopted a Mission statement which states the purpose of AAPHR and its operating principles. Copies of that document, and the financial report for 1989, are available on request.

AAPHR was granted 501(c)(3) tax exempt status by IRS in 1989, and we received approval for reduced postage rates for mass mailings.

We are poised to do more. Will you help?