THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE for Palestinian Human Rights

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August 3, 1990

Dear Friend:

What have we done recently that matters to you?

On July 31 we completed a summary of Hebrew press articles translated by Dr. Israel Shahak, noted Israeli human rights activist, along with his views. They portend an early war, with the stage set by the Israeli government (ala their invasion of Lebanon). Our summary was hand delivered (by Women Strike for Peace) to the offices of every US senator and representative. Your copy is enclosed.

On May 9 there was a Congressional hearing on recent developments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The hearing was mentioned briefly by some of the media. When the official transcript is published, in August or September, it will probably be read in its entirety by few in Congress. So we distilled the key points - as we see them from a human rights viewpoint. That AAPHR document was delivered in late July (also by Women Strike for Peace) to Capital Hill.

We sent to 50 organizations the letter on the back of this sheet. It urges that they pass on an idea to their constituents. We didn't mail it to all on our list because (1) the other organizations have in the aggregate a huge list and (2) we wanted to conserve funds. Now, however, we can include that letter with this one. Please, write or phone. Voters voices are greatly needed!

Another AAPHR initiative involves those religious denominations which have adopted positions supportive of Palestinian human rights. We urged, through their Washington offices, that they (1) "spread the word", because we believe many congregations aren't aware of their denomination's positions, and (2) urge congregations to write to their representatives, as a body of XXX persons, supporting Palestinian human rights (that is all - nothing political) and the placement of a UN observer in the Occupied Territories.

But all of this takes money. Our staff costs are *zero*, but we have expenses for paper, printing, phones, stamps, and office supplies. For example, it cost $110 to print the 6-page Congressional hearing document mentioned above. And the total cost for getting this letter to you was around 30 cents, even with the low postage rates paid by non-profit organizations.

Such expenditures add up quickly. We therefore need your help. Our goal is monthly bulletins. Each bulletin costs a minimum of $145, more if longer than two pages. The recent Amnesty International annual report on human rights violations is currently planned as the topic of our next bulletin. But when dollars are short, only the free deliveries (thanks to Women Strike for Peace) to Congress are made. We want to always include you.

Will you help us do that? Your contribution will be fully tax deductible. As a tangible expression of our thanks, we will mail you a copy of the Congressional hearing summary.

Sincerely,

Robert Listou
Executive Director