

National
Council
on US-
Arab
Relations

1983 ANNUAL REVIEW

1625 Eye Street N.W., Suite 625
Washington, D.C. 20006

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations assists programs designed to improve understanding, dialogue and bonds of friendship between the peoples of the United States and the Arab world.

The Council functions primarily as a grant-making organization in order to strengthen the established and emerging programs of other institutions. In the course of its work with corporations, foundations, universities and other organizations, the Council assists both donors and recipients to achieve a more cost-effective use and distribution of resources.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Institution-Building

The Council was incorporated as a legal entity on May 4, formed a Board of Directors, opened offices in downtown Washington, obtained tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, hired staff, and welcomed twenty-four distinguished Americans as charter members of its Advisory Committee.

Grant-Making

The Council awarded sixteen grants and made three related awards in support of activities strengthening U.S.-Arab relations in the following areas:

- 1) travel/study tours to Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, and the West Bank for American educators, scholars and officials of international affairs organizations;
- 2) scholarships for Arabic language and Arab studies academic programs in the U.S. and Arab world;
- 3) conferences and outreach activities in the U.S. and Middle East;
- 4) film documentaries and publications.

Middle East Speakers Bureau

The Bureau filled 283 requests for speakers on a broad range of Middle East topics. Over 70 Middle East affairs specialists delivered presentations at conferences, orientation programs, and seminars in 25 states throughout the U.S. and five other countries. This averaged to one Bureau-arranged speech each weekday during the year.

Bureau-assisted events engaged speakers in a variety of capacities. These ranged from lecturers and panelists addressing seminars, to guests on radio and television talk shows, to commencement speakers and conference keynoters, and those providing newspaper interviews, summation addresses, poetry readings and film and slide show commentaries.

Council-Assisted Projects

The Council undertook a range of activities designed to strengthen the work of other groups active in U.S.-Arab relations. Council officers and staff together with Middle East Speakers Bureau representatives participated in several dozen symposia on the Arab and Islamic world in the course of assisting universities, corporations, foundations, institutes, and international organizations both in the U.S. and abroad.

Council officers and staff organized and participated in fifteen cross-cultural programs designed for U.S. government civilian employees anticipating assignment to 18 Arab countries. This included all but three of the countries in the Arab world to which the U.S. Government sends official representatives. Council officers also participated in six area and country studies seminars at institutions which prepare Americans for service in U.S. security assistance programs in the region.

Council Projects

The Council sponsored a conference designed to improve the quality and quantity of Middle East teaching materials available for distribution to secondary schools. It also sponsored the visit of the new Director of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) for purposes of increasing U.S.-European liaison on Middle Eastern issues. In addition, several analytical reports on topics relevant to U.S.-Arab relations were disseminated to interested organizations.

Publications

The Council commissioned two "Occasional Papers" on U.S.-Arab relations, one dealing with commercial issues and another with the strategic dimension. It launched a study on the post of Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs that involves interviewing all available holders of the position since its creation in 1949. The Council also commissioned two books: one on U.S. policies toward the Middle East and another on Gulf security. Council officers and staff themselves had half a dozen articles and essays accepted for publication.

Audiences Reached

The Council reached a broad spectrum of the American public with these activities. Those affected included university and secondary school educators, civic and theological leaders, Middle East specialists, Islamic religious scholars, U.S. Government diplomats, military officers and civilian personnel, elected officials, corporate officers, and diplomats from other countries. Still larger audiences were reached through arrangements made for newspaper and journal articles, the distribution of teaching materials, and radio and television interviews generated by Council staff and Speakers Bureau lecturers.

Details of the Council's work are provided in the main body of this report.

ACTIVITIES

May-December 1983

Incorporated on May 4, 1983 in the District of Columbia, the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations has engaged in six major types of activity: Institution-building, Grants, Middle East Speakers Bureau, Council-Assisted Activities and Projects, Council Activities and Projects, and Publications. The results follow:

I. INSTITUTION-BUILDING

A. Established and equipped an office (1625 Eye St., NW, Suite 625, Washington, DC 20006), and produced informational materials about the Council.

B. Engaged key staff, including the President, a Staff Writer, a Grants Coordinator, and an Officer Manager/Secretary.

C. Established a Board of Directors whose officers and members are:

- Dr. JOHN DUKE ANTHONY (President and Chief Executive Officer), formerly President, Middle East Educational Trust;
- Mr. JOHN P. RICHARDSON (Vice President), former President, Center for Middle East Policy;
- Mr. JEAN R. ABINADER (Secretary), President and Managing Director of The Transnational Group, Inc.
- Dr. PETER A. GUBSER (Treasurer), President, American Near East Refugee Aid, Inc. (ANERA);
- Mr. JOHN G. SARPA (Member), President, Intermarket Network Corporation and former Director for Middle East Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
- —Members of the Executive Committee

D. A founding member of the Board, Mr. LESLIE A. JANKA, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Near Eastern, South Asian, and African Affairs, was named Special Assistant to the President and Deputy White House Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs on September 1. Effective that date, he relinquished his positions on the Board and Executive Committee.

E. Appointed legal counsel and auditors.

F. Obtained tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation.

G. Commenced formation of the Council's Advisory Committee, on which the following distinguished Americans now serve:

The Hon. Lucius D. Battle, Chairman, The Johns Hopkins Foreign Policy Institute; Chairman, National Committee to Honor The Fourteenth Centennial of Islam; and former Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs;

Vice Admiral Marmaduke Bayne, USN (Ret.), former Commander, U.S. Middle East Naval Forces; former Commandant, National War College; and first President, National Defense University;

Mr. Carl Bazarian, Investment Counselor, East/West Group, Ltd., and former Director for Middle East and Africa, Overseas Private Investment Corporation;

The Hon. L. Dean Brown, President, Middle East Institute; former U.S. Ambassador to Jordan; former Special Presidential Envoy to Lebanon; and former Deputy Under Secretary of State;

Dr. Ralph Braibanti, Director, Islamic and Arabian Development Studies, and James B. Duke Professor, Duke University;

Mr. Thomas A. Bullock, Chairman of the Board, CRS Group, Inc.;

The Hon. Hermann Frederick Eilts, Director, Center for International Relations and Chairman of the Political Science Department, Boston University, and former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Egypt;

Dr. Ragaei El Mallakh, Director, International Center for Energy and Economic Development, and Editor, *Journal of Energy and Development*;

The Hon. Paul Findley, former Member of Congress;

Mr. Stephen F. Herman, Senior Vice-President, UBAF Arab-American Bank;

Dr. Michael C. Hudson, Director, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University;

Ms. Helen H. Huff, Director, Idaho International Institute;

Ms. Marylin V. Jacobsen, President-Elect for 1985-1986, National Council of World Affairs Organizations, and Director, World Affairs Council of Inland Southern California;

Dr. Malcolm Kerr, President, American University of Beirut;

The Hon. Andrew I. Killgore, President, American Educational Trust, and former U.S. Ambassador to Qatar;

Mr. John F. Mahoney, Director, Americans for Middle East Understanding, Inc.;

Dr. Joseph J. Malone, President, Middle East Research Associates, Inc. (In Memoriam: 1924-1983);

The Hon. Paul N. McCloskey, Jr., former Member of Congress;

The Hon. Helen Meyner, former Member of Congress;

The Hon. Robert Neumann, Director, Middle East Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, and Morocco;

Mr. Orin D. Parker, President, American Mideast Educational Training and Services, Inc. (AMIDEAST);

The Hon. Thomas M. Rees, former Member of Congress;

The Hon. Talcott W. Seelye, former U.S. Ambassador to Syria and Tunisia, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs;

The Hon. Michael E. Sterner, Partner, International Relations Consultants, Inc.; former U.S. Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates; and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs;

Mr. Jack B. Sunderland, President, U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce;

The Hon. Nicholas G. Thacher, President, San Francisco World Affairs Council, and former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia;

The Hon. Marshall W. Wiley, Partner, Sidley and Austin; Member, American Arab Affairs Council Board of Directors; and former U.S. Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman.

H. The Council's President and Vice President joined the Board of Directors of *American Near East Refugee Aid, Inc. (ANERA)*. ANERA has long been the leading private voluntary organization providing economic development assistance and humanitarian relief to the nearly two million Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

I. Established Grant Application and Administration Procedures.

J. Developed a "stewardship grant" concept, wherein the Council obtains support from corporations, foundations, and other donors, and distributes the funds through special awards for worthy projects. The Council oversees the use of grant monies, allowing American firms to contribute to a much wider range of activities strengthening U.S.-Arab ties than would otherwise be possible, and to do so without having to maintain costly in-house project evaluation and monitoring staff.

K. Through personal discussions and correspondence, briefed the presidents, executive directors and key staff of 55 international affairs organizations on the purposes for which the National Council was established, particularly its goal to work closely with other groups.

L. Prepared a comprehensive budget for the first year's operation and inaugurated a "functional budget" system to ensure that Council staff efforts are directed to the greatest extent possible toward grant-making and other forms of support for existing organizations.

II. GRANTS

In the first seven months of its existence (May-December 1983), the Council awarded sixteen grants and made three related awards in support of activities strengthening U.S.-Arab relations in the following areas:

A. Travel/Study Programs

The Council believes that personal contacts and cross-cultural experiences are among the most effective means of expanding knowledge, understanding, and bonds of friendship between the peoples of the United States and Arab world. Accordingly, the Council awarded four grants in support of travel/study tours to the region.

1. *The University of Pittsburgh's University Center for International Studies* received a grant to support its participation in a travel/study tour to the Middle East. The tour members, including university educators, religious leaders, and graduate students in theological seminaries, visited Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, and the West Bank. A special feature of the program was a pilot project to measure the impact of the tour on the participants' perceptions of current events in the area.

2. *The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)* was awarded a grant to defray costs of a CSIS travel/study tour of the Gulf area. The purpose of the trip was two-fold: (a) to examine U.S. relations with Iraq and the Gulf states, and (b) to better comprehend Iraqi social and political trends of the last decade. Three publications are scheduled to result from this project.

3. *Mercy Corps International*, a church-based group with relief work experience in the Middle East, received a grant to help underwrite a travel/study seminar to several Middle Eastern countries. An editor of a leading Christian periodical, the deans of several theological institutions, and other religious leaders will participate in the program. Analyses of the trip's results will be featured in national religious publications.

4. *The Palestine Human Rights Campaign (PHRC)* was awarded a grant to help fund a Congressional staff fact-finding tour of Jordan, Syria, and the West Bank.

The delegation has been invited to submit written testimony on its findings to the *House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee for Europe and Near East Affairs*.

B. Higher Education

At a time of cutbacks in student financial assistance and international studies programs, the Council awarded three grants in support of Arabic language scholarships and Arab studies.

1. The *Middle East Institute* received a grant to provide scholarships for adult American students enrolled in Institute instruction classes in Arabic over the next two years. Thirteen students have already benefited.

2. The *American University in Cairo's Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA)* received a grant for scholarships assisting American students enrolled in its Arabic language and Arab studies program.

3. The *American University's Center for Mediterranean Studies* in Washington, D.C. received a grant to help underwrite the services of four Arab professors engaged as visiting faculty for the Center's 1983 summer seminar on the Arab world.

C. Conferences and Outreach

With a view to enhancing the effectiveness of existing organizations' outreach activities, the Council awarded four grants in support of conferences and educational programs.

1. The *Community Resource Service of Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies* received funds for the design, production, and distribution of secondary school teaching modules in four Middle East subjects: Arabic language, Arab origins of mathematical concepts, Arab contributions to geography, and Arab-U.S. economic ties.

2. The *Arab-American Community Center in Atlanta* was awarded a grant in support of its local outreach programs to increase knowledge, understanding and communication between the Arab-American and Black communities.

3. The *Association of Arab-American University Graduates, Inc.—District of Columbia Chapter* received a grant to defray production and distribution costs for an *Arab World Speakers Booklet*. The Booklet will contain a listing of specialists in the greater Washington area who are available to address topics relevant to the Middle East and Arab world. It will be distributed to churches, civic

groups, and all area high schools. As the first of its kind, it will serve as a model for the compilation of similar directories for other regions throughout the U.S.

4. The *National Center for Export-Import Studies* in Washington, D.C. received a grant to help fund a conference on "The Future of U.S.-Arab Trade and Economic Relations". The conference is co-sponsored by the *General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce* and will be held in Kuwait. Numerous American and Arab government officials, scholars, and business leaders are scheduled to participate. The conference will highlight the mutually beneficial aspects of U.S.-Arab economic and trade relations and will provide a channel for dialogue between U.S. and Arab business leaders and policy makers.

D. Media and Publications

In an effort to reach general audiences, the Council awarded four grants in support of two documentary films and two publications.

1. *Foglight Films* received a grant to help defray costs associated with the production of "Native Sons". The film is a documentary project, designed for American television, which will examine the human dimension of the Palestinian peoples' current situation and recent history. The film's principal underwriter is the *Ohio Arts Council*.

2. *Reem Productions* received a grant to defray costs associated with efforts to make an English language version of the film, "The Arabs of San Francisco". The film portrays Americans of Arab ancestry living in San Francisco. Upon its completion, the English language version will be made available at cost to universities, high schools, and other interested groups.

3. *Claremont Research and Publications* received a grant to cover the printing and binding costs of a compendium of articles on recent developments in the West Bank.

4. The *Middle East Assessments Group* received a grant to support research for an upcoming publication on U.S.-Saudi Arabia security cooperation. The study will go beyond the several assessments of U.S.-Saudi Arabia security relations at the time of the AWACS issue. It will analyze a range of common interests and concerns likely to affect the relationship in the foreseeable future.

III. MIDDLE EAST SPEAKERS BUREAU

Council officers and staff developed a Middle East Speakers Bureau prior to May 1983, administering it from the offices of the American Educational Trust from April 1982 through April 1983. The Bureau has assisted educational, civic, and religious organizations in obtaining qualified speakers on Middle East-related topics. It has advised meeting organizers, curriculum specialists, and panel moderators concerning conference and academic course themes, length of individual presentations, sequencing of panels and speakers, and appropriate combinations of audio-visual aids, handouts, maps, and other items. Over and beyond the sums involved in the Council's grants and provision of related financial assistance to other organizations, additional Council funds were spent from May onwards in support of honoraria, travel costs, and related expenditures in connection with Bureau-assisted speaking engagements.

In 1983, the Bureau filled 283 requests for speakers. More than 70 Middle East specialists delivered presentations at conferences, orientation programs, seminars, and cross-cultural briefing sessions in 25 states throughout the U.S. and five other countries. This averaged one Bureau-arranged speech each weekday during the year.

Bureau speakers ranged from former high-ranking White House, Pentagon, and State Department officials, to scholars, journalists, and others with extensive experience in public speaking and knowledge of Middle Eastern affairs.

Bureau-assisted events engaged speakers in a variety of capacities. These ranged from lecturers and panelists addressing seminars, to guests on radio and television talk shows, to commencement speakers and conference keynoters, and those providing newspaper interviews, summation addresses, poetry readings, and film and slide show commentaries.

Virtually all the engagements arranged by the Bureau were in conjunction with public education programs. More than 90% of the speeches addressed contemporary issues and questions. The Bureau's services were used by universities, civic organizations, religious groups, corporate briefing programs, the U.S. Government, international affairs organizations and institutions of higher learning in several other countries.

A majority of the speeches delivered by Bureau lecturers focussed on the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, followed by the countries in the Eastern Mediterranean. The topics addressed included history and culture, social structure and change, economic development, tradition and modernization, political dynamics, security, and various aspects of regional and international relations.

In addition to providing American Middle East specialists for conferences and seminars, the Bureau also arranged for speakers from other countries to address U.S. audiences. Among the more prominent speakers from this category were:

- Abdallah Alireza, a Saudi Arabian businessman, to address the *Council on Foreign Relations* in New York as the final speaker in the Council's 1983 Spring series on "The U.S. and Gulf Security." (Subsequent to that lecture, arrangements were made for him to address the international editorial board of *Newsweek*);
- H.E. Yusuf Abdallah Al-Alawi, Oman's Foreign Minister, to address the *Council on Foreign Relations* in New York;
- H.R.H. Prince Bandar bin Sultan Al Sa'ud to address the *Foreign Policy Association* in New York;
- Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan to speak to the *World Affairs Councils* of Inland Southern California and Dallas, Texas; and
- The Rt. Hon. Lord Caradon, former British Permanent Representative to the United Nations (and principal author of U.N. Resolution 242 as pertains to the Arab-Israel conflict), to speak to the *National Security Affairs Program* of the U.S. *Naval Postgraduate School* in Monterey, California.

IV. COUNCIL-ASSISTED PROJECTS

A. Conferences

1. "Oman: Past and Present"

The Council co-sponsored a September 27 conference at *Georgetown University* which commemorated the 150th anniversary of the 1833 *Treaty of Amity and Commerce* between the United States and Oman and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The festivities marking the historic event were attended by American specialists on Oman, U.S. officials, and numerous Omani dignitaries. Among the latter was H.E. Mallalah Ali Habib, Under-Secretary, Omani Ministry of National Heritage and Culture, who represented His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Sa'id and delivered the keynote address. Other speakers addressed such topics as U.S.-Oman relations in the early years, Omani economic development, Oman and the Gulf Cooperation Council, and future prospects for U.S.-Oman relations.

The Conference's highlights included a narrated slide show on Oman by *National Geographic Magazine* award winning photographer-journalist Thomas Abercrombie and excerpts featuring Oman from Jo Franklin-Trout's film, "The Oil Kingdoms", produced for *National Public Television*. In conjunction with the commemoration, *Oman National Television* and the *Arabic Language News Service of the Voice of America* featured interviews with a Council official. The Conference's entire proceedings were videotaped and transmitted to Oman for same-day viewing on *Oman National Television*.

2. "Gulf Security: The Allied Dimension"

A Council official was the principal organizer of a June 29 conference in the U.S. Capitol on Gulf security. The conference was co-sponsored by the *North Atlantic Assembly* and the *Roosevelt Center for American Policy Studies*. Members of Congress, legislative aides, and Middle East specialists attended the day-long affair which brought European parliamentarians interested in the Gulf together with a number of their American counterparts.

3. "Saudi-America: Technology, Service and Trade in the '80s"

In cooperation with the *Okaz Saudi Gazette* publishing firm, the Council helped facilitate the participation of a prominent Saudi Arabian in a May 9-10 conference in Atlanta which sought to enhance commercial ties and investment opportunities between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

4. "The Search for Peace in the Middle East: U.S. Relations with the Arab and Islamic World"

A Council official served as principal advisor to an October 13-15 conference in Washington, co-sponsored by the *American University* and the *Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)*. Participants included officials from the Arab world, American scholars, and former U.S. government officials. One full day's proceedings were cablecast live by the American C-SPAN Television Network, which has 20 million subscribers. The proceedings were videotaped for viewing on television in a number of Middle Eastern countries. The Council official also participated in a national television call-in program which examined issues raised at the conference.

B. Academic Services, Cross-Cultural Programs, Special Events

1. Council officials and staff organized and participated in numerous cross-cultural orientation and area studies programs designed for U.S. government employees en route to Arab countries. Personnel in eight different government agencies attended the programs. In conjunction with one program, a Council official was cited for meritorious contributions to the seminar's

effectiveness and presented with an award bestowed on only four people in the history of the program.

2. A Council official facilitated arrangements with a major U.S. service institution, which sponsored a team-taught course on "The Middle East in International Relations." The Council arranged for seven distinguished scholars and international relations specialists with long and intimate involvement in Middle East affairs to participate as guest lecturers.

3. At several of the orientation programs designed and conducted by Council officials and staff, surveys in the form of questionnaires were conducted before and after the programs. The surveys were designed to gauge the participants' preconceptions as well as to measure the impact of pre-departure orientation programs on their knowledge and understanding of Arab history and culture.

4. Council officials assisted with the distribution of a major study about Arab cultural achievements to institutions which hold regular courses of instruction on the Middle East.

5. Council officials assisted the *National Textile Museum's* annual benefit gala, "A Caravan Through Arabia," via the loan of Arabian artifacts.

6. A Council official was appointed to the coordinating committee for the 1984 National Convention of the *Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee*.

C. Publications

1. The Council, in cooperation with the *American Middle East Peace Research Institute*, arranged for the *American Educational Trust* to publish a monograph by Leslie A. Janka and William A. Espinosa, entitled *Defense or Aggression: U.S. Arms Export Laws and the Israeli Invasion of Lebanon*.

2. A *Saudi Arabia Teacher's Guide*, prepared under the supervision of a Council official, was distributed to secondary school educators and the outreach coordinators of several university centers for Middle East studies. The *Teacher's Guide* was produced in conjunction with the *Public Broadcasting System's* three-hour documentary on Saudi Arabia.

3. Two publications incorporated research which the Council facilitated earlier in the year on the views of fundamentalist Christians toward the Middle East. The first, *Torah, Zionism, and Palestine* by Edwin M. Wright, was published by *Americans for Middle East Peace, Inc.* The second, *The Bible and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*, by John C. Trever and Edwin M. Wright, was published by *The Claremont School of Theology*.

4. A Council official contributed to the section on the Gulf Cooperation Council in the revised edition of the *Area Handbook on Saudi Arabia* (Washington, D.C.: Foreign Area Studies, 1984).

5. A Council official facilitated the production of the 1983 annual review of U.S.-Arab trade relations, entitled *Middle East Business Survey*, published by the *National Association of Arab Americans*.

V. COUNCIL PROJECTS

A. Conference

"Conference on Middle East Instructional Materials"

The Council sponsored a July 14 conference which explored ways to improve instruction on the Middle East and Arab world in primary and secondary schools. The conference brought together international education and Middle East area specialists, high school teachers, representatives from the Arab-American community, and professionals from the Middle East outreach centers which produce and distribute pre-collegiate teaching materials in several regions of the country.

Participants included representatives from the *American-Arab Affairs Council*, *Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies*, the *Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee*, the *University of Texas' Center for Middle East Studies*, the *Middle East Institute*, *The Transnational Group, Inc.*, and the *University of Southern California's Center for Public Education*.

B. Studies

Council staff researched and wrote the following reports which were distributed to interested parties:

1. A "How-to-Apply" report on international education grants awarded by the U.S. *Department of Education (DED)*. The report aids Middle East study centers and other groups seeking to apply for funds from DED to support area studies and foreign language instruction. Grant activities include: curriculum improvement, travel/study tours, development of instructional materials, conferences, and workshops.

2. A report and chronology of the three-year political and media campaign waged by the Tucson Jewish Community Council (TJCC) to close the *University of Arizona's Middle East Outreach Center*. Center staff had been instrumental in founding the

Middle East Outreach Council (MEOC), an organization of outreach professionals with regional and local constituencies throughout the U.S.

The TJCC accused MEOC of leading a "national campaign to rectify the Arab image." The controversy gained nationwide attention as a forerunner of anticipated future attacks on other universities and as a test case of academic freedom. No written account of the protracted three-year struggle was previously available.

3. A report on the Middle East policy positions of the announced contenders for the 1984 Democratic Presidential nomination. Council staff analyzed the substance and tone of the campaign's treatment of Middle East issues.

C. Press and Media

1. Council staff monitored major daily newspapers and responded to various articles, editorials, and advertisements that were inaccurate or distortive of key elements in U.S.-Arab relations.

2. Council staff drafted Op-Ed articles and assisted in speech writing on timely topics. An article prepared in conjunction with the state visit to the U.S. of the Amir of Bahrain appeared in the *Dallas Times Herald*; a letter to the editor was printed in the *Wall Street Journal* in response to a misleading editorial on U.S. security interests in the Gulf; and a speech written at the Council appeared as a feature article in a leading international affairs journal. Three other Council-authored analyses of different dimensions of U.S.-Arab relations appeared without byline in widely circulated journals.

3. The Council financed and organized a reception and press conference hosted by the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs* on the occasion of the publication of *Washington Post* correspondent Jonathan Randal's book, *Going All the Way*. The book is an eyewitness account of the events leading up to and including the 1982 Israeli invasion and occupation of Lebanon.

4. The Council reviewed and critiqued a draft essay on "Jordan and Saudi Arabia: Kingdoms at the Crossroads?" for the *Foreign Policy Association's (FPA) Great Decisions 1984* publication. The essay will be used as the principal reference for the FPA-sponsored discussion groups in every U.S. state which, altogether, involve some 200,000 citizens.

D. International Liaison

1. A Council official was invited to attend the meetings of both the Ministerial Council and Heads of State Summit of the *Gulf Cooperation Council* in Doha, Qatar, in late October-early November. The Council official, the only American to have attended each of the

GCC Heads of State Summit meetings since the organization was founded in 1981, was featured in a program on Qatar national television and was interviewed by several Gulf and European newspapers on the historical evolution of the GCC.

2. A Council staff member accompanied a Congressional staff delegation on a fact-finding tour of Syria, Jordan, and the West Bank. His participation will allow the Council to better evaluate its sponsorship of travel/study tours to the Middle East as well as what supporting role the Council might provide to strengthen the existing programs of other organizations.

3. The Council sponsored the new Director of the *Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding* (CAABU), during his October visit to the United States. The Council hosted a luncheon in his honor which was attended by senior representatives of most of the major American Middle East-related organizations. CAABU, the principal organization in the United Kingdom dedicated to strengthening Arab-British relations, will co-sponsor with the National Council a 1984 conference entitled "A Trans-Atlantic Dialogue on the Middle East" which will bring together British Members of Parliament, present and former Members of the U.S. Congress, and political scientists, economists, defense specialists and foundation heads from both countries to consider Anglo-American interests in the region.

4. Council officials briefed the U.S. ambassadors to two Gulf states on the current political and economic scene in the region.

5. In October, members of the Council's Board of Directors visited Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar. The members explained the mission and goals of the Council to several groups of Americans and Arabs in each of those countries. One result of the Saudi Arabia portion of the visit was the Council's facilitation of the first affiliation between the *American Businessmen's Councils* in Jeddah, Riyadh, and Dhahran with the *U.S. Chamber of Commerce*.

6. The Council seconded a staff member to the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) to lead a four-week tour of six Egyptian journalists participating in USIA's *International Visitors Program*. In Washington, the reporters attended the Middle East Institute's annual conference, held discussions with Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff members, and met with State Department officials. The delegation then travelled to eight American cities, visiting newspapers, radio and television stations and numerous universities.

7. The Council provided liaison assistance to U.S. corporate representatives seeking to establish better lines of communication between the private sector and U.S. government institutions for projects involving technology

transfer and development of managerial skills in the Arab world.

8. A Council official participated in a conference on "Security in the Gulf and Southwest Asia" at Ditchley Park in England in November.

VI. PUBLICATIONS

A. Commissioned Studies

1. The Council allocated funds to cover the costs of producing a map on the Middle East for use by teachers and students in secondary schools. Map development and distribution is being directed by secondary education specialists at *The Arrowhead High School* in Hartland, Wisconsin.

2. The Council is supervising preparation of a study on the position and role in policy formulation of the Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs—the highest position in the U.S. Government dealing with the Arab world. The project involves interviewing all available former holders of the post since its creation in 1949. The study's principal focus is on political and institutional circumstances as well as on the differing approaches and viewpoints of the personalities involved. The study is the first undertaken on this important position in the formulation and implementation of U.S. Middle East policy.

3. *U.S.-Arab Relations: The Commercial Dimension*, the first in a planned series of "Occasional Papers" the Council will be co-sponsoring with other groups on different aspects of U.S.-Arab relations, was completed by John G. Sarpa. The publication, co-sponsored by the *National Center for Export-Import Studies*, provides an overview of the history of U.S.-Arab commercial ties, examines areas of mutual benefit, and highlights specific problems in need of resolution or amelioration if U.S.-Arab commercial relations are to improve.

4. *U.S.-Arab Relations: The Strategic Dimension*.

The Council commissioned Colonel Thomas Pianka (USA-Ret.) to author a study examining the strategic dimensions of U.S.-Arab ties.

5. *Middle East Peace and U.S. Foreign Policies*.

The Council commissioned former Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asia Affairs Lucius D. Battle and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Leslie A. Janka to oversee the preparation and editing of a book the Council plans to publish on U.S. policies and actions in the Middle East.

6. *Security in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf States: 1973-1983.*

The Council commissioned Dr. John E. Peterson of the University of Pennsylvania's Foreign Policy Research Institute to produce an annotated bibliography on military and security issues in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf. The annotations will consist of digests of several hundred publications, featuring Congressional hearings, conference proceedings, monographs, bulletins, newsletters, books, and articles. The study is designed to serve as a reference aid for scholars, journalists, government officials and others interested in a topic of ongoing importance in U.S.-Arab relations.

B. Books, Articles, Essays and Reviews Accepted for Publication

1. *Jordan: Crossroads of the Middle East* (Boulder, Col.: Westview Press, 1983), authored by a Council official, was selected to be re-issued in a Spring 1984 paperback edition.

2. A Council official was commissioned to write a book on the current political, economic, social, and cultural milieu in the West Bank. The book is scheduled to be published in 1984 by the Middle East Institute.

3. A Council official had accepted for publication a chapter on "The Gulf Cooperation Council" in *Gulf Security in the 1980s* (Palo Alto, Ca.: Stanford University Press, 1984).

4. An essay written by a Council official on "The Regional and Worldwide Implications of the Gulf War" appeared in *The Politics of Middle Eastern Oil* (Washington, D.C.: The Middle East Institute, 1983).

5. A Council official had accepted for publication a paper on "The Iraq-Iran War" in *The Shatt al-'Arab Conflict* (London: Croom Helm, 1984).

6. A Council official authored a chapter on "The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen" which appeared in the *International Yearbook on Communist Affairs* (Stanford, Ca.: Hoover Institution Press, 1983).

7. A Council official contributed to a special issue of *Aramco World Magazine* focusing on the Gulf Cooperation Council. The issue is scheduled for publication in 1984.

8. A Council official delivered a paper to the Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates' October 10 Conference on "The Middle East and The Centrally Planned Economies." The paper, which examined the strengths and weaknesses of the Soviet position in the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab states on the south side of the Gulf, was presented to a panel on "The Soviet Bloc and The Gulf" and will be published as part of the Conference's proceedings.

9. A Council official was the author of a series of articles which analyzed U.S.-Arab commercial relations and appeared in *U.S.-Arab Commerce*, a leading business magazine.

10. A Council official presented a paper in Bonn, West Germany on "Prospects for Nation-Building" to a conference on "The Domestic Situation in the Small Arab Gulf States." The conference was held under the auspices of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Foundation and included representatives from West German industry, several international affairs organizations, the Bundestag, and the Chancellor's Office. The paper will be included in the conference's published proceedings.

11. A review written by a Council official of David Holden and Richard Johns' *The House of Saud* was accepted for publication in the *Political Science Quarterly*.

12. A Council official authored the feature article on Oman which appeared in the November issue of *Journal of Defense and Diplomacy*.

The Council looks forward to making additional contributions to our country's knowledge and understanding of the Arab world. Through the award of grants, the services of the Speakers Bureau, and the provision of assistance to other organizations, the Council will continue to address both the opportunities and the problems faced in the U.S. relationship with the 21 Arab countries and their neighbors.
