

The logo features a stylized map of Texas on the left and a map of the Middle East on the right. Two curved arrows connect the two maps, one pointing from Texas to the Middle East and the other from the Middle East back to Texas. The text "Texas Committee on U.S. - Arab Relations" is centered between the maps.

Texas Committee
on
U.S. - Arab
Relations

NEWSLETTER

VOL 4. NO 1

OCTOBER, 1993



**1993 Model Arab League Program
Midwestern State University**

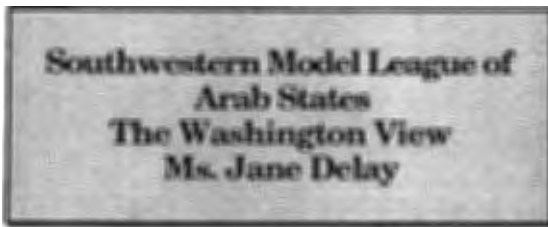
For the second consecutive year, Midwestern State University served as the host of the southwestern competition of the Model League of Arab States.

Primary hosts for the meeting were Dr. Kenneth Hendrickson, Dr. David Martin and Dr. Mike Preda. Once again, the university

provided superb facilities and services to the participants.

Dr. Abdallah Sbeih, of the Washington, D.C. office of the League of Arab States provided both opening remarks and the banquet lecture. Dr. Sbeih delivered a spirited analysis and commentary that was the topic of many after dinner conversations. His lecture provoked some very insightful thinking and challenged the students to a higher plane of thinking regarding the Arab World.

During the competition, Dr. Sbeih served as a consultant, source of information and genial conversationalist with many of the participants. His presence was very much appreciated and we look forward to his visit again in 1994.



It was with great anticipation that I attended the final four Models of the 1993 season in my new capacity as the Model Arab League Program Coordinator. Even though my title is new, I am not a stranger to the leadership development program having participated in three of the West Coast Models, first as an undergraduate and then as a graduate student. I am therefore well acquainted with the importance of simulation in education and the needs of those involved. I observed that each Model is as individual as the region in which it is hosted.

Although similar in structure, the Models vary in organization experience, and all contain special features that make them unique unto themselves.

The Southwest Model League of Arab States, one of the nine simulations of the proceedings of the League of Arab States, stands as an example of what the National Council's leadership development program strives to achieve. The explicit organization and attention to every detail of the three-day simulation hosted by Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, April 15-17, 1993, created an atmosphere in which both students and faculty were able to gain the most from the educational experience. Although I could describe all nine of the regional Models as successful, the Southwest Model is unique from the others in that the "team of three" -- Dr. Michael Preda, (Malone Fellow, 1990 Egypt/Iraq; 1993 Saudi Arabia/Qatar), Dr. Kenneth Hendrickson (Malone Fellow, 1989 Saudi Arabia/Bahrain; 1990 Jordan/Israel/West Bank/Gaza; 1992 Syria/Kuwait), and Dr. David Martin (Malone Fellow, 1989 Saudi Arabia/Bahrain) -- work together, sharing administrative responsibilities and preparing a minimum of two delegations.

I was pleased with the facility in which the Model took place. The opening session, all five committee sessions, the final summit, and the awards banquet took place in the same building. This allowed the students and faculty advisors to share resources with one another more readily. The accessibility also provided the delegations with the chance to

support each other during breaks and caucuses. Finally, the faculty advisors were able to observe all of the committee session for greater lengths of time.

The organizers also scheduled social activities in addition to the structured program. These provided a relaxed atmosphere in which the participants strengthened relationships formed earlier and continue informal caucusing. The result was cooperative effort in all of the committee sessions to produce higher quality resolutions. It further allowed them to discuss the role playing and share ideas on the perceived national interests of the countries they represented in the Model.

As with all of the Models, an element of competition exists, and awards recognizing excellence in preparation, debate and representation were given to selected students and delegations at the closing banquet. This year, the students were responsible for selecting sixteen of their peers as "Outstanding Delegates" and fifteen to receive "Honorable Mention" awards.

Schools honored with "Outstanding Delegation" awards include:

- Midwestern State University for their representation of Syria
- St. Edward's University for their representation of Egypt; and
- Baylor University for their representation of Libya.

"Honorable Mentions" were awarded to Oklahoma Baptist University for their representations of Jordan and Palestine and to Southwestern

University for their representation of the United Arab Emirates.

I am looking forward to attending the 1994 Southwest Model League of Arab States on April 14-16, 1994 and to be hosted again by Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX. It will be a pleasure to work with the new Secretary-General, Mr. Russell Rach, from Lamar University and the Assistant Secretary-General, Mr. Nate Williams, from Eastern New Mexico University.

For more information on the Model League of Arab States Program, please contact Ms. Jane M. Delay at the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations at 1735 Eye Street, NW, Suite 515, Washington, D.C. 20006. (202) 293-0801.

1. Political Affairs

Hussein Ali Fawaz	Baylor
Peter Hassinger	Southwestern
Scott McKinlay	St Edwards
Uli Bauer	Midwestern State

Honorable Mention

Lonnie Smuth	Baylor
Chris Masingill	Texas Wesleyan

2. Cultural Affairs

Jenan Ghazal	Midwestern State
Jennifer Jsetson	Baylor
Chad E. Bell	Oklahoma Baptist

Honorable Mention

Sean Milligan	Oklahoma Baptist
Blanca M. Chow	Baylor
Helen Fortner	St Edward's

3. Economic Affairs

Joachim Knop	Midwestern State
Sonny Miller	Oklahoma Baptist
Jamie Landon	Eastern New Mexico

Honorable Mention

Heelay Jamil	Midwestern State
Mike Mullen	Oklahoma Baptist
Rob Lacy	St Edward's
Jawad Sarwane	Southwestern State

4. Palestine Affairs

Steven Palamer Oklahoma Baptist
Lela Maxey Baylor
Gary Boyd Midwestern State

Honorable Mention

Joey Ghaleb St Edward's
Michelle Brown Southwest Texas State
Suzanne MacDonogh Trinity

5. Social Affairs

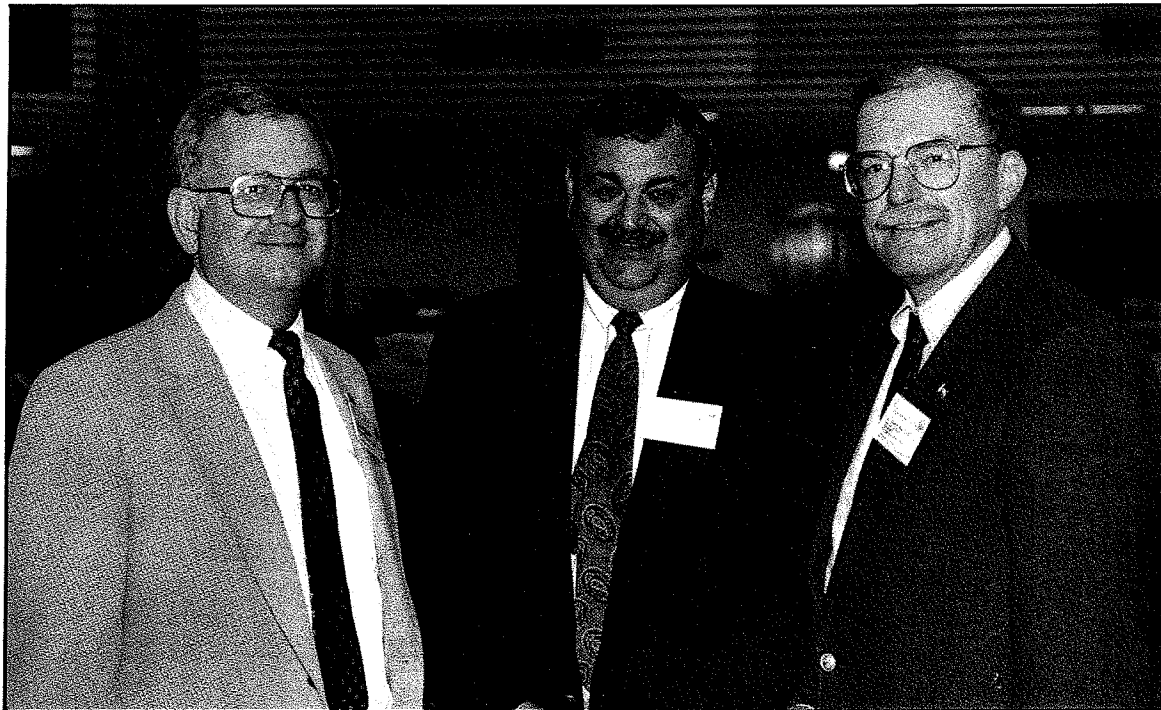
Farhana Mahmoud Southwest State
Matthew Hinthorn Southwest Texas State
Jenny Salan Midwestern State

Honorable Mention

Natalie A. Walrond Trinity
Nicale Berryman Oklahoma Baptist
Steven McGlaun St Edward's

**1994
Model Arab League**

For the third consecutive year, the Southwestern Model Arab League competition is being held in Wichita Falls, Texas on the campus of Midwestern State University. The dates for the meeting are April 14-16, 1994. At the time that this newsletter went to press, there were still four countries available for a group of students to represent. For additional information, contact Dr. David Martin, Dr. Kenneth Hendrickson, or Dr. Mike Preda at 817-692-6611, (Fax: 817-692-4865).



Dr. David Martin

Mike Preda

Kenneth Hendrickson

Southwest Model League of Arab States - 1993



Dr. Abdallah Sbeih



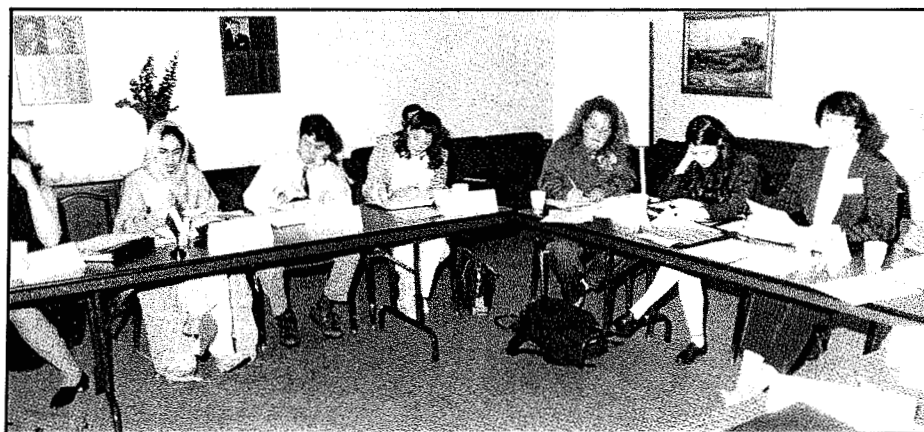
Student Caucus



Awards Banquet



Discussion Session



Cultural Committee



Dr. Saif Abbas Abdallah

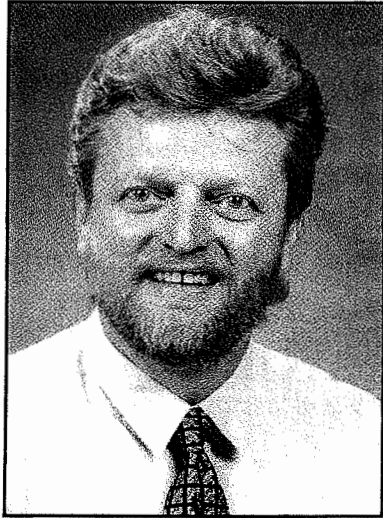
Kuwait Scholar/Diplomat Visits Texas

Dr. Saif Abbas Abdallah was a recent visitor in Texas where he lectured at both Trinity and Southwest Texas State University. Dr. Abdallah's experience in Washington, D.C. as well as his position in Kuwait gave him a unique background for addressing current and past relations between the United States and Kuwait.

At Southwest Texas State University he addressed a group of 400 students and faculty about America's role in the Gulf War and the repercussions of that conflict. Dr. Abdallah delivered a

message which held his audience spellbound and generated so many questions that the session had to be terminated before everyone had a chance to speak.

Later in the day, he was interviewed by the local press and TV channel and provided an excellent in-depth analysis of Kuwaiti reconstruction. His visit to both Trinity and SWT was extraordinarily well received and the impact of his lectures was substantial. His visit was sponsored by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations of Washington D.C.



Brock J. Brown
Assistant Professor
Department of Geography and
Planning
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, TX 78666

***Recovery In Kuwait: The
Infrastructure and the Soul of
a
Nation***
by
Brock Brown

On a course that took us well south of Iraqi air space, and nearly twenty hours after departing Washington, D.C., there was a sigh of relief as the Kuwait Airlines 747 turned hard left and descended along the Arabian Gulf toward Kuwait City. Although any real sense of time had evaporated during the long hours of travel, it was apparent that it was early evening as the last hint of twilight quickly faded during our final approach into Kuwait International Airport. Out of the vast and totally encompassing darkness that seizes the Bedouin desert at night, the lights of what I know must have been Kuwait City,

reached out like a welcoming beacon. It must be true, I thought to myself, realizing that the nighttime pattern of lights of the city below showed no hint of the virtual destruction that Kuwait City had sustained barely two years earlier during the Iraqi occupation. Although I had heard that the Kuwaitis had rebuilt their capital, the images broadcast by CNN immediately after the liberation lingered in my mind and underscored the magnitude of the project that had so quickly rebuilt the Kuwaiti infrastructure.

Once inside the airport I was further astounded by what I saw, or rather did not see. Before me was a modern international airport filled with busy people. There was no hint of the recent occupation and destruction incurred at the hands of the Iraqi occupation forces. It appeared as if nothing had ever happened to disrupt life in Kuwait.

Although dark, the drive between the air port and the hotel along the well-lighted, six-lane freeway gave no glaring hint of the recent devastation. Magnificent stone and concrete homes, a hallmark of Kuwait City, quietly lined the freeway. Skyscrapers in the distance glimmered as a result of after hours business activity. It appeared to me that Kuwait had been restored and everything was "business as usual." Over the next few days I would learn that this was, in fact, largely the case. Except for the ongoing replacement of vegetation along highways and streets that had died during the occupation because of lack of irrigation, the urban landscape had been repaired and now masked the reality

of horrors that had unfolded here barely two years earlier.

On the surface, then, the Kuwaitis had pulled off a miracle and the scars from the war on the landscape had been erased. This had been a massive effort because the Iraqis had literally taken everything, including the kitchen sink. Any item that could be removed was taken. Even the wiring and electrical outlet covers were gone. After the city had been stripped of everything of value, much of it was senselessly destroyed. After looking at pictures of the city before the reconstruction, it became apparent that this atrocity had been perpetrated by an angry and irrational enemy.

My Kuwaiti hosts were eager to show off the miracle of their reconstructed city and I must admit it was one of the most impressive things I have ever seen. On the surface they beamed with pride and spoke eagerly of the future, but in their eyes, their voices, and their body language, it was evident that not all of the devastation of the invasion and occupation could be repaired with concrete and steel. The physical infrastructure of Kuwaiti society had been restored, but the soul of the Kuwaiti nation was still brutally wounded.

Life during the occupation had been like a nightmarish game of roulette. At any time, often at night, the Iraqi forces would rove the city and randomly pick people on the street to detain and frequently torture. Thousands of Kuwaiti homes were broken into and the residents terrorized and subjected to whatever horrors the intruders might desire. This was particularly difficult for children

who suddenly found themselves prisoners in an unpredictable reality where even the sound of a motor outside the house might bring with it unbelievable fear and pain from which there was no escape. For the Kuwaitis it was a cruel waiting game in which there were no winners. Perhaps worst of all, hundreds of Kuwaitis are still being held by the Iraqis, unaccounted for since being kidnapped during the occupation. I doubt that there is a single family that does not have a member included among the missing.

The invasion and occupation has shaken the very fabric of Kuwaiti life. The lingering agony of the missing Kuwaitis, probably more than any other aspect of the war, is making it impossible to achieve closure, begin the healing process, and move forward to build a new and more secure future. Although the duration of the occupation was met with a courageous Kuwaiti resistance, and the aggressor is gone now, the scars are deep and not yet healed. Kuwait is doing many things to help accelerate the healing process. Special programs, especially for children, are being implemented to help them cope with the atrocities that robbed them of their childhood and family members. A project is underway to scientifically document and legitimize the Kuwaiti claim to sovereignty, political autonomy, and their claim to the state of Kuwait. One of the most pressing, yet frustrating efforts is to obtain the release of the missing, and the prisoners of war.

Upon leaving Kuwait I was treated to a daytime view of the city as the 747 ascended into the cloud-

less skies over the Arabian desert. Just as when I arrived, I found the nearly total recovery of the physical infrastructure of Kuwait impressive by any standard. The city was functioning normally and the oil fields had returned to pre-invasion production levels. I knew from first-hand experience that the Kuwaiti people were making great strides to move forward. Yet, in light of this progress, I was saddened by the things that could not be seen from observing the landscape. I know that the scars of a brutal occupation were lingering heavily in the soul of every Kuwaiti. It had become evident that only time, and resolution of the missing Kuwaitis still being held by Iraq, would permit the people of Kuwait to recover as fully as the landscape of their country.

**NEW TEXAS MALONE
FELLOW
REBECCA AUGUSTIN**

Rebecca Augustin received a MS (1980) in elementary administration and supervision and a BS (1979) in elementary education from Northwest Missouri State University. She has taught in public and private schools and at the university level as well. As a member of the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education, she has served as a teacher consultant and is active in teacher education workshops sponsored by the Texas Committee on U.S.-Arab Relations. Her focus is on the methods and materials that are shared with the participants.

Rebecca has been developing educational materials that in-

corporate an integrated approach to teaching for several years. Recently, she received national recognition for the development of a unit entitled, "Columbus Crosses the Curriculum." She received the National Council for Geographic Education/George F. Cram Scholarship Award in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Currently, her interests have turned to Arabic and Islamic materials and she is preparing to develop new materials on the Arab world for Children's Press of Chicago.

In May, Rebecca was part of a group of eighteen educators who toured Saudi Arabia and Qatar. One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to spend time at a private elementary school in Jeddah.



Rebecca A Augustin
Seele Elementary School
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Conference

Trinity University, San Antonio
February 24-27, 1994

The United States in the Middle East: An Historical Inquiry

This upcoming conference will provide a forum for scholarly discussion on the diplomatic, military, economic, and social, role of the United States in the Middle East since the early twentieth century. The intimate involvement of the United States in the recent Persian Gulf war and in the current Arab-Israeli negotiations, as well as the new regional and international balances of power emerging in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf conflict and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, has provided this country with the wherewithal to influence Middle East affairs in a significant fashion. An examination of American relations with the Middle East in historical terms is necessary in order to place contemporary events in historical perspective, thereby offering scholars an opportunity to study the implications of current policies, the extent to which the United States can play a beneficial role, and the consequences of American involvement for the countries, groups, and individuals that comprise the Middle East. The utilization of history based on new research and offering new interpretations will result in a complete and objective analysis of American relations in the Middle East. Topics include the King-Crane Commission, the Point-Four program, the Iranian/

Jordanian/Syrian/Lebanese crises of the 1950s, the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the Camp David process, the Persian Gulf war, the U.S. and Islamism, and current Arab-Israeli negotiations.

The perspectives of those in the Middle East toward American involvement in the region as foci of examination have generally been neglected in scholarly works, and have been virtually ignored by the policy-making apparatus in Washington. The conference will address this issue by emphasizing equally the perceptions of those in the region itself toward Washington and the role the United States has played and can play in the area. Toward this end, a number of conference participants will be drawn from various countries in the Middle East to supply a view from "the other side" on particular episodes of modern Middle East history, juxtaposed with presenters who will expound upon the American role. This will result in a more balanced analysis of the past and a more sober assessment of the present and future.

Speakers at the conference include: William B. Quandt, Ambassador Richard Parker, Sadik al-Azm, Mohamed Sid-Ahmed, Sir Sam Falle, Ambassador Alfred Leroy Atherton, Jr., Georgiy Mirsky, Yvonne Haddad, Bernard Reich, John Duke Anthony, David W. Lesch, Shafeeq Ghabra, Augustus Richard Norton, Robert O. Freedman, Amatzia Baram, Kenneth Stein, Emile Sahliyah, F. Gregory Gause, Robert Staloff, James Gelvin, Fawaz Gerges, Yair Evron, Judith Kipper, and Mark Gasiorowski.

For more information, contact the conference host and organizer, Dr. David W. Lesch, Professor of Middle East History at Trinity University, at 210-736-7631 (FAX 210-736-7305).

Teaching Materials Review

The Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies at the University of Michigan has recently released an excellent set of teaching materials for educators interested in this vital area of the world. The series is titled, *Roots of Violence in the Middle East*, and includes six separate units which can be utilized in a wide range of Social Studies programs. The units are primarily designed for high school students, but would also provide superb information for junior high school teachers. The separate unit titles are: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Religious Tensions, Water Scarcity, Economic Inequality and Political Violence, Human Rights and Democratization, and Armed Rivalry.

While all of the units are excellent, this review will focus on The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict materials. This unit is authored by Dr. Ronald Stockton, a Professor of Political Science at the University of Michigan - Dearborn. He is the President of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists and has led study groups to the Middle East.

The strength of his unit lies in the fact that as an organizer and lecturer of teacher education workshops he truly understands what type of material teachers are looking for. The unit includes some good maps which can be duplicated for student exercises, and some interesting tables to interpret.

There are five separate lessons, each designed as a two-day exercise. Objectives, teaching strategies, and outcomes are identified. If you have languished as a teacher over presenting this critical conflict to your students, this material is a god-send for you. The unit sells for \$8.00 individually, orders of 10-50 units sell for \$6.00 each, and more than 50 are available for \$5.00 each. If you are interested in all six units described at the beginning of this review, they are available for \$30.00. To order, write:

Elizabeth Barlow
Outreach Coordinator
Center for Middle Eastern
and North African Studies
144 Lane Hall
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1290

Atlas Review

Atlas of the Middle East, Central Intelligence Agency, January, 1993, may be purchased from: Document Expediting Project, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540-4200, \$25.00.

If you have even a passing interest in the region known as

the Middle East, this atlas is a must for your school or personal library. The Central Intelligence Agency has long been overlooked as a premier source of atlases and maps by educators. However, this agency has access to excellent data and its cartographers are some of the very best in the business. Using the latest in computer technology and cartographic design, the agency has produced a first-class atlas at a very reasonable price.

The atlas is divided into two parts. Part One looks at the region as a whole, focusing on geography, temperature, water, historical eras, boundary issues, strategic passages, oil and gas, economy, expatriate labor, ethnicity, religion and demography.

Part Two provides an individual assessment of each of the nations of the Middle East. Each nation is given two pages of map space. Along with the traditional physical map of each nation, there are three separate supplementary maps depicting population density, economic activity, and land use. Administrative divisions of each nation are illustrated and a bounty of additional information is included.

Perhaps of equal importance is the provision of maps and data for the Occupied Territories. At the end of the map section is a very useful segment with national facts for all of the countries.

The true prize in this publication are two superb maps that come as attachments to the atlas. One is a Middle East Reference Map and the other is a stunning depiction of Middle East Oil and Gas deposits. These maps alone are worth the purchase price.

Book Review

A Taste of Palestine, by Aziz Shihab, published by Corona Publishing Company, 1037 South Alamo, San Antonio, Texas 78210, \$10.95.

A childhood in Palestine is the background of an unusual cookbook by Dallas journalist and businessman, Aziz Shihab. The book is presented in an unusual and charming style. Instead of proceeding, like most cookbooks, according to the types of dishes, *A Taste of Palestine*, proceeds by storytelling. Each group of recipes is preceded by a story of Palestinian life. Woven throughout the text is the underlying question of why Muslims, Christians and Jews cannot live together in peace as they once did. There was a time when they were neighbors and friends and the land was at peace. The author urges the reader to focus on the good will of the past to encourage a better tomorrow.

Along with a good dose of historical and political philosophy, the reader is treated to some wonderful recipes. There are more than fifty traditional recipes which emphasizes whole grains, legumes, olive oil and herbs. Most of the recipes are from the author's mother, now 104 years old and still living in her native town on the west bank. For those readers who have traveled in the Middle East, reading the recipes will begin to stimulate the sense of taste and the aroma so special to

this part of the world. Any teacher doing a unit on the Middle East would find this book a great asset in preparing some traditional foods to share with students. This is a unique little book well worth the modest cost of purchase. We recommend it highly.

Preda In New Mexico

In June of 1993, Dr. Michael Preda, Chairman of the Political Science Department of Midwestern State University conducted a teacher education workshop in New Mexico. One segment of the workshop was devoted to Arabic and Islamic culture where Dr. Preda was able to share his recent experience in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Dr. Preda participated in his second Malone experience in May. Previously, he had been a Malone Fellow to Egypt and Iraq. The teachers in the workshop were given subscriptions to *Aramco World* as well as two publications from Saudi Arabia. Each teacher will also receive a subscription to the Texas Committee on U.S.-Arab Relation's Newsletter.

Midland, Texas Meets the Arab World

On Saturday, October 2, 1993, fifty-five of the finest teachers in the Midland-Odessa area took part in an exhilarating full day workshop with Audrey Shabbas of AWAIR. Local arrangements were the responsibility of Patty Smith of the Midland Independent School District. The program, "Teaching About the Arab World and Islam," was a fast paced and exciting educational tour through one of the most strategic regions of the world. All participants returned to their schools with a copy of the Arab World Notebook, as well as copious materials from the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Aramco, the League of Arab States, and the International Institute of Islamic Thought. The teachers will also be added to the mailing list of the Texas Committee on U.S.-Arab Relations, which helped supply materials for the workshop.

Metroplex Conference

One June 21-23, 1993, Byron and Rebecca Augustin worked with a group of teachers and social studies supervisors in the Dallas-Ft Worth area. The conference was sponsored by the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education with grant assistance from the Communities Foundation of Texas. One session was dedicated to Arabic and Islamic culture and teachers were provided with some teaching materials. Response to and interest in the Arab World was significant.



Metroplex Conference

Augustins in Aldine, Texas

Byron and Rebecca Augustin, who recently returned from Saudi Arabia and Qatar as Malone Fellows, travelled to Houston, Texas, on September 24, 1993 to conduct a workshop for the Aldine Independent School District. The focus of the workshop was on the cultural and physical diversity of the Arab World. A large assortment of artifacts and materials were displayed at the workshop to accompany a 35mm slide presentation and lecture/discussion. Eight individual schools in the Aldine District were represented by fifteen teachers and both the teachers and schools received a large supply of maps, books, atlases and other materials for teaching about Arab and Islamic culture. Some materials were purchased with a grant from the National Council on U.S.-Arab-Relations in Washington, D.C.

TEACHERS-TEACHERS-TEACHERS

The 1994 spring issue of the Texas Committee on U.S. Arab Relations will be loaded with materials and ideas for teaching about the Arab World. If you know any teachers or friends who would like to be placed on our mailing list, please send their name and address to:

Byron Augustin
Department of Geography
and Planning
139 ELA-SWT
San Marcos, TX 78666

We will immediately place them on our mailing list for future newsletters.



Southwest Model League of Arab States - 1993

***Texas Committee
on US-Arab
Relations***

Byron D. Augustin
Department of Geography & Planning
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, TX 78666-4616

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