

OPINION

Israeli ordeal

By MICHEAL GISSER

Regrettably, we feel that the article "The Palestinian Ordeal" (Gazette Feb. 5) is based on either ignorance of the facts, or a deliberate decision to ignore the facts.

For example, the article failed to mention that the Palestinians are victims of the negative balance in their relationship with the Arab states which have assumed guardianship over them and encourage them to engage in armed confrontation with the Jews. When Israel's War of Independence broke out in 1948 the Arab states not only failed to rescue their Palestinian brothers but pushed them aside and fought for their own ends.

"The fact that these refugees exist is a direct result of the Arab states' opposition to the partition plan and the establishment of the Jewish state. The Arab states adopted this policy unanimously, and the responsibility for its results, therefore, is theirs."

These are the words of Emil Gohry, secretary of the Arab High Council published on Sept. 6, 1948 in the Lebanese daily *al-Telegraph*, much before this topic became an important theme of Arab Propaganda.

The critic also chose not to mention the deplorable conditions under which the Palestinians were kept in refugee camps between 1948-1967 when the West Bank and Gaza were ruled by Jordan and Egypt. At that time, neither Jordan nor Egypt was asked to grant the refugees self rule and the establishment of a Palestinian independent state in the West Bank and Gaza.

It is a myth that the West Bank and Gaza have suffered economically from Israel's occupation. The 1982 State Department

human rights report stated, "It is obvious that living standards have risen steadily throughout the period of Israeli control. Official Israeli statistics indicate that unemployment in the occupied territories is as low as one percent and real per-capita income has risen 11-12 per cent annually since 1968. In the West Bank, per-capita GNP in 1981 was \$1,391, over three times the 1968 figures."

Furthermore, there are marked improvements in the health care on the West Bank and Gaza regions. The following statistics show conditions in 1967, when Israel took over the regions and in 1982.

There is, to be sure, a gap between Israel Jews and Palestinians in Israel, but it is more social and psychological than economic or legal. The gap is based mainly on a 36 years state of war between the Jewish state and the Arab states. But it is difficult to think of another country where an ethnic minority related to neighbouring enemy countries can live as freely.

To summarize, we bring the opinion of Ralph Galloway, a former head of the UN Relief and Work Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA): "The Arab states do not want to solve the refugee problem. They want to keep it as an open sore, as an affront to the United Nations and as a weapon against Israel. Consequently, Palestinian bitterness and anger had to be kept alive." As long as this sad state of affairs prevails (refer to the starving refugees in West Beirut) the Palestinian Ordeal is, unfortunately, far from over.

Micheal Gisser is president of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation.

WEST BANK	1967/68	1982
Population	582,000	747,500
Per cent of hospital births	13.5%	45.7%
Maternal/child health centres	24	83
Doctors	55	188
Electric refrigerators	4.8	51.5
Cars/Trucks	2925	27,010
Classrooms	4401	7291
GAZA	1967/68	1982
Population	335,900	476,300
Percent of hospital births	13.1%	30%
Electric refrigerators	2.5%	
Cars/Trucks	1737	14,863
Classrooms	1746	3697

CULT AWARENESS WEEK

●Monday, March 9, 2-4 pm *Cults in our Communities*, room 230, Loyola Building, St. Mary's University; 7-10 pm film *Ticket to Heaven* discussion and question period with Mike Kropveld in Theatre A of Burke Education Centre, SMU

●Tuesday, March 10, 2-4 pm *Religious Standpoints on Cults* in Haliburton Room, University of King's College; 7-10 pm film *Deceived* about Jonestown.

●Wednesday, March 11, 2-4 pm lecture on *Cult Recruitment, Techniques and Mind Control* in room 224 Dal SUB; 7-10 pm clos-

ing session on *The Status of Women and Child Abuse in Cults*.

DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION

OPEN FORUMS FOR DSU CANDIDATES

- Monday, March 9, 11:30 am - 1 pm, SUB Garden Cafeteria
- Tuesday, March 10, 7 - 8:30 pm, Shirreff Hall Cafeteria
- Wednesday, March 11, 7 - 8:30 pm, Howe Hall Cafeteria
- Thursday, March 12, 7 - 8:30 pm, SUB Grawood Lounge
- Friday, March 13, 12 - 1:30 pm, Tupper Cafeteria

FRI MARCH 6 7:30PM \$4.

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7:30 PM TIL MIDNIGHT \$4.

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MON & TUES MARCH 9 & 10

CULTS



SUNDAY MARCH 8 8 pm. DAL SUB

TRAVEL CUTS TAKES YOU TO THE STARS

CLASS SELECTION & APPROVAL 1987/88 SESSION

(ARTS AND SCIENCE, MANAGEMENT STUDIES, HEALTH PROFESSIONS)

MARCH 9-13, 1987 9:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

Class Timetables will be posted and distributed to departments during the week of March 2.

Class Approval Forms and Timetable Worksheets are available from departments and the Registrar's Office.

Counselling and Class Approval will take place in departments during regular office hours the week of March 9-13, 1987.

Completed Class Approval Forms may be handed in to the Registrar's Office, Arts and Administration Building, during the week of March 9 and thereafter.

NOTE: Please note the departmental signatures are valid for two weeks only. Returning students should note that if Class Approval is not obtained before May 31, it may not be available again until the September Registration period.

Office of the Registrar February, 1987

IMPROVING UNIVERSITY TEACHING: DOES IT MATTER?

A Public Lecture and Discussion

DR. CHRISTOPHER KNAPPER
University of Waterloo

Introductory remarks by

DR. HOWARD C. CLARK, President
Dalhousie University

Friday, March 13
10:00 a.m.
Dalhousie University
McInnes Room
Student Union Building

Dalhousie students and faculty who are concerned about the quality and nature of teaching at this university are invited to this lecture/discussion by one of Canada's most respected learning theorists. The author of numerous books and articles on the subject of teaching and learning, Dr. Knapper is currently the Director of Teaching Resources at the University of Waterloo. He is particularly interested in how we might replace instructional techniques designed for a previous era with methods that will enable students to direct their own learning — and thereby prepare for the times of unprecedented change which he sees coming.

(This public lecture is jointly sponsored by the Department of Psychology, Dalhousie University and the Centre for Continuing Studies, Henson College.)