

American community thousands of miles away from its home, and which is affected by conditions that differ from the conditions which affect the people at home at the present time, cannot be representative of the American people. But we do claim, on the other hand, that to study a community like the one we have is the best way to get a clear and exact idea about the reaction to the information they receive of those who are reached by our mass media. This study is not an information material, but a basis for information-planning. It does not study the Americans but it studies the extent of their knowledge of us and of our information to them. If our information service is ineffective among the Americans in Lebanon, could it be effective in the U.S.? If it is difficult for members of an American community, in the midst of the Arab world, to comprehend or believe the ideas transmitted by our information service, could it change the situation in the U.S.? If the influence left by the traditional American enmity to the Arab revolution (including the Palestinian revolution) deprives some members of the American community in Lebanon of the ability to see the facts, could those facts overcome such influence in the U.S.?

We do not mean, by all those previous question marks, to be pessimistic or to give ready-made judgements about the effectiveness of Arab information about Palestine in the U.S. No judgement can be given before we evaluate the effect of Arab information, in recent years, on approximately five hundred Americans who live in Lebanon. By putting some