



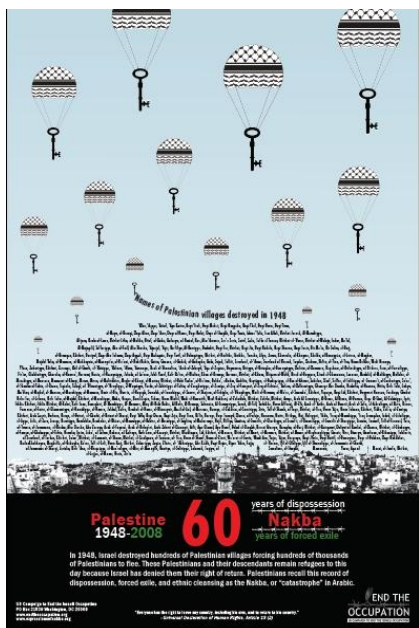
ANNUAL REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2007-JULY 2008

Presented by the Steering Committee and staff to the US Campaign's 7th Annual National Organizers' Conference, American University, Washington, DC, July 25-28

The US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation is a nation-wide coalition of more than 250 organizations working to end U.S. support for Israel's illegal military occupation of the Palestinian West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, and to change U.S. policy to support a just and lasting peace based on human rights, international law, and equality. The US Campaign's strategy to achieve these goals is to educate, organize, and mobilize people in the United States. It provides its member groups with resources, a forum to share lessons learned, and an umbrella for nationwide mobilizations and projects to impact U.S. policy. It has grown from a handful of member groups in 2001 to more than 250 member organizations today. The US Campaign holds an Annual National Organizers' Conference for its member groups to network, share lessons learned, decide upon priority areas of action for the upcoming year, direct and affirm the strategic direction of the coalition, and elect new Steering Committee members. Its founding conference in Chicago in 2002 was followed by national conferences in Washington, DC (2003 and 2004), Atlanta, GA (2005), Dearborn, MI (2006), and Arlington, VA (2007).

1. US CAMPAIGN PROGRAMS, 2007-2008

A. COMMEMORATING THE NAKBA



2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the Nakba (or “catastrophe” in Arabic): the ethnic cleansing and dispossession of Palestinians that took place during the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

To commemorate the Nakba and raise awareness of it, the US Campaign sponsored an international arts competition, entitled “Expressions of Nakba”. More than 350 high-quality entries from artists in 13 countries were reviewed by a distinguished 17-member jury composed of artists and academicians from around the world. The jury awarded first place and honorable mentions in the following categories: visual arts, poster design, recorded audio, digital media, and written word.

The US Campaign set up a separate website to both manage the competition and display winning entries and honorable mentions. As of July 2008, Google ranked the website #14 on a search for the word “Nakba”, testifying to the popularity of the competition. The website can be viewed at: <http://www.expressionsofnakba.org>

The winning poster design and an honorable mention in the graphic arts category formed the basis for a Nakba advertisement campaign sponsored by the US Campaign in both New York and Washington, DC, timed to coincide with the largest Israel birthday celebrations in the country. In New York, the US Campaign posted more than 1,000 educational posters throughout mid-town Manhattan for one month. In Washington, DC the US Campaign hired a mobile billboard truck to circle the National Mall during the Israel birthday celebration and the DC Convention Center during AIPAC's annual policy

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conference. The US Campaign produced a professionally-edited 6-minute video of the mobile ad traveling around Washington, DC and posted it on-line at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8u7DCe_OqI

In addition, the US Campaign publicized events taking place throughout the country on Nakba Day (May 15, 2008) and compiled and distributed educational resources on the Nakba and Palestinian refugees for the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (November 29, 2007), Deir Yassin Day (April 9, 2008), and World Refugee Day (June 20, 2008).

B. CHALLENGING U.S. POLICY



In August 2007, the United States and Israel signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to increase U.S. military aid to Israel to \$30 billion over the next ten years, an average increase of 25% over the pre-MOU level.

Ever since, the US Campaign has been leading a nation-wide effort to challenge not only this increase, but military aid to Israel in general. The US Campaign initiated a sign-on letter to Congress opposing the President's budget request for \$2.55 billion in military aid to Israel in FY2009. As of July 2008, approximately 375 U.S.-based organizations have endorsed the letter.

The US Campaign has also sent organizing packets—complete with postcards, fact sheets, and petitions—to approximately 300 volunteer organizers in more than 40 states who are working to educate people in their community about

military aid to Israel and to organize them to oppose this aid.

Through action alerts, more than 8,500 individuals have sent a total of more than 250,000 letters Members of Congress serving on the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs—the subcommittees with jurisdiction over foreign aid—opposing military aid to Israel.

In addition, the US Campaign updated its 110th Congressional Report Card (2007-2008) to cover the voting records of Members of Congress on 6 key resolutions in the Senate and 11 in the House.

C. BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, AND SANCTIONS (BDS)



The US Campaign continued to contribute to the BDS movement by working on corporate accountability campaigns against Motorola and Caterpillar.

In February 2008, the US Campaign launched its “Hang Up on Motorola” campaign. The US Campaign sent a detailed letter to Motorola CEO Greg Brown outlining the ways in which his corporation is profiting from Israel's human rights abuses. Although Motorola refused to respond directly to the US Campaign, it did reply unsatisfactorily to the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, which publicized the Motorola campaign.

The US Campaign set up a separate, professionally-designed website to house the campaign, which is located at: <http://www.hanguponmotorola.org>. Through this website, nearly 2,000 people have contacted Motorola executives demanding that the corporation stop profiting from Israel's human rights abuses.

The US Campaign also continued working with coalition members on the campaign to get Caterpillar to stop selling bulldozers to the Israeli army. In October 2007, the US Campaign organized a day of action to commemorate the one-month anniversary of the death of Mahmoud al-Kifafi who was at least the 18th person to have been killed by the Israeli army with CAT bulldozers. The US Campaign produced and distributed educational resources, including postcards and posters, around the country. In June 2008, the US Campaign worked with coalition members Chicagoans against Apartheid in Palestine (CAAP), Jewish Voice for Peace and Jewish Voice for Peace—Chicago, and the American Friends Service Committee—Chicago to organize a presence inside and outside of corporation's annual shareholder meeting.

D. STANDING AGAINST APARTHEID

In March 2008, the US Campaign announced plans to host a national anti-apartheid organizing tour featuring Diana Buttu, a former legal advisor to the PLO, and Eddie Makue, Secretary General of the South African Council of Churches. Buttu and Makue will travel the United States in November 2008 speaking about their shared experiences living under apartheid regimes and encouraging people in the United States to engage in campaigns of boycott and divestment to end Israeli apartheid. Nobel Peace Prize-winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu endorsed the tour in a video, which the US Campaign posted here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrgGW5Q-f7s>



The US Campaign held a competitive proposal process to determine which cities the tour will visit. More than 50 applications were received prior to the June 2008 deadline from organizations around the country eager to host the tour. From an abundance of solid proposals, the US Campaign selected the following cities as hosts for the tour: Atlanta, GA; Boulder, CO; Chicago, IL; Dearborn, MI; Louisville, KY; Los Angeles, CA; Milwaukee, WI; New York, NY; and Washington, DC.

In addition, the US Campaign publicized and helped organize the Washington, DC component of an international “Israeli Apartheid Week” in February 2008.

2. MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH, 2007-2008

Since its last annual conference, the US Campaign has inducted the following 14 organizations into the coalition, raising the total number of member organizations from 241 to 255:

1. Al-Nakba Awareness Project/Palestine: Just Justice, Eugene, OR
2. American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee—Massachusetts, Boston, MA
3. American Friends Service Committee—Southern New England, Providence, RI
4. Ann Arbor Boycott Israeli Goods (BIG), Ann Arbor, MI
5. Anti-War Anti-Racism Effort (AWARE), Urbana, IL
6. Indianapolis Code Pink, Indianapolis, IN
7. Middle East Crisis Response, Woodstock, NY
8. Nolley Memorial United Methodist Church, Jena, LA
9. Palestine Media Project, Washington, DC
10. Pax Christi Maine, Portland, ME
11. Sharing Jerusalem USA, Washington, DC
12. Stop AIPAC, Berkeley, CA
13. Veterans for Peace—Eugene Squadron 13, Eugene, OR
14. War Times, Oakland, CA

Between November-December 2007, the US Campaign held a series of regional meetings in Boston, New York, and San Francisco to foster regional cooperation between member groups of the coalition and to strategize jointly on how to implement program priorities, which were decided upon at the previous annual conference, on a regional basis.

Throughout the past year, the US Campaign continued to produce a bi-monthly electronic newsletter called “Occupation End Notes”. The newsletter features a recap of US Campaign activities and programs, highlights news of interest, spotlights the activities and successes of member organizations, and more. The newsletter is a key part of the US Campaign’s efforts to network member groups and build a national movement.

In addition, the US Campaign held a series of telephone conference calls with its member groups to provide political updates and analyses and highlight issues related to the US Campaign’s program priorities.

3. US CAMPAIGN STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

A. STAFF AND OFFICE TRANSITIONS

The US Campaign currently has three full-time employees: Katherine Fuchs, National Organizer; Omar Masri, National Membership and Outreach Coordinator; and Josh Ruebner, National Advocacy Director.

The main distribution of staff responsibilities is as follows:

- * Katherine Fuchs conducts the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) and anti-apartheid framework program priorities.
- * Omar Masri conducts all aspects of membership and outreach, including organizing the national conference and regional meetings, maintains financial records, and administers the office.
- * Josh Ruebner conducts national advocacy campaigns, fundraising operations and personnel management, and provides support and oversight for program priorities.

Although each member of the staff has specific job responsibilities, staff work in a cooperative and non-hierarchical fashion.

In March 2008, Josh was promoted from Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator to National Advocacy Director. In April 2008, Omar was promoted from Office Manager to National Membership and Outreach Coordinator.

In June 2008, National Organizer Suha Dabbouseh, who was hired in January 2008, voluntarily left the staff of the US Campaign to pursue her law degree. As National Organizer, Suha was responsible for launching the “Hang Up on Motorola” campaign, working with coalition members to organize a presence at the Caterpillar annual shareholder meeting, arranging the preliminary logistics and schedule for the November 2008 anti-apartheid organizing tour, and assisting with the Expressions of Nakba competition. In a short period of time at the US Campaign, Suha accomplished a significant amount of high-quality work and the US Campaign would like to thank her for her critical contributions and wishes her well as she begins law school.

In July 2008, Katherine Fuchs, a former organizer with Peace Action, was hired as the US Campaign's new National Organizer. The US Campaign would like to welcome Katherine on board.

The US Campaign would also like to thank interns Brittany Brown (Fall 2007) and Andrew Epstein (Summer 2008) for their invaluable contributions. Brittany helped organize the last annual conference, did the initial research and drafting of the 110th Congressional Report Card, and helped mobilize for the November 2007 Caterpillar day of action. Andrew helped organize the current annual conference, researched and updated the 110th Congressional Report Card, and helped mobilize for the June 2008 Caterpillar day of action. The US Campaign owes both Brittany and Andrew a tremendous debt of gratitude for their exceptional volunteer help.

B. STEERING COMMITTEE

According to the US Campaign's Organization Rules as adopted in July 2003, the 12-person Steering Committee is the highest elected decision-making body of the US Campaign in between the Annual National Organizers' Conference. At each annual conference, the Assembly—composed of delegates of member groups in good standing—elects four members for three-year terms, which allows for both continuity and change in the leadership of the coalition. The following is a list of current members of the Steering Committee, followed in parentheses by the year in which their terms end. Organizational affiliations are for identification purposes only. Members of the US Campaign Steering Committee serve in their individual capacities.

- * **Serin Atiani**, Stop US Tax-Funded Aid to Israel Now (SUSTAIN), (2008)
- * **Omar Baddar**, American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee—Massachusetts (2010)
- * **Phyllis Bennis**, Institute for Policy Studies (2009)
- * **Felicia Eaves**, Black Voices for Peace (2009)
- * **Amie Fishman**, Co-Chair, Jewish Voice for Peace (2008)
- * **Zaha Hassan**, Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights (2008)
- * **Adam Horowitz**, American Friends Service Committee (2010)
- * **Rev. Diane Ford Jones**, Treasurer (2009)
- * **Judith LeBlanc**, United for Peace and Justice (2010)
- * **Ashley Meyer**, Secretary (2010)
- * **Nitin Sawhney**, PhD, Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights (2008)
- * **David Wildman**, Co-Chair, General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church (2009)

The US Campaign would like to thank all of its Steering Committee members for the hard work and long hours they have put in over the course of the past year to help guide and develop the work of the coalition. The US Campaign would also like to particularly thank and acknowledge those Steering Committee members whose terms expire at the 7th Annual National Organizers' Conference. Serin Atiani, Amie Fishman, Zaha Hassan, and Nitin Sawhney all made invaluable contributions to the work of the US Campaign.

During her three years on the Steering Committee, Serin provided critical advise and guidance on program priorities and strategic development, served as a mentor and sounding-board for staff, organized and emceed numerous benefits, and served as the creative mind and implementor of the Expressions of Nakba competition.

Amie served as the co-chair of the Steering Committee for the past two years and served as secretary during her first year. In these capacities, Amie has endured many long cross-country flights to provide excellent facilitation skills for face-to-face meetings of the Steering Committee. She has also spent innumerable hours preparing and shaping agendas, providing guidance on strategic development, and working with staff on professional development and personnel management. Her own in-depth expertise with managing non-profits played a tremendous role in helping the US Campaign to grow over the previous three years.

Zaha, a former co-chair of the Steering Committee, was appointed by the Steering Committee in January 2008 to fill the time remaining for the elected term of Uda Olabarria Walker, who resigned her position on the Steering Committee in

October 2007. It was a pleasure having Zaha rejoin the Steering Committee for a brief period during which she provided important guidance on strategic development and served as a sounding-board for various legal matters. The US Campaign would also like to thank Uda for her nearly 2 ½ years of service on the Steering Committee. During her time on the Steering Committee, Uda served as secretary, provided crucial advice and guidance on boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) programming, and as liaison to the US Campaign's many member groups in the Bay Area.

Nitin brought a much-needed artistic and creative eye to the US Campaign during his two-year term on the Steering Committee. Along with Serin, Nitin was the driving force and implementor of the Expressions of Nakba competition. He also cheerfully and effectively wrote grant proposals and worked with staff to develop fundraising plans.

At the 7th Annual National Organizers' Conference, accredited voters will elect 4 new Steering Committee members. The top four vote-getting candidates will be elected to fill three-year Steering Committee terms.

C. ADVISORY BOARD

The Organization Rules provide for an Advisory Board of persons who will lend their names to the US Campaign, serve as a source of guidance and expertise, and assist in fundraising, campaigns and activities. It also helps to maintain a link with former Steering Committee members who made a major contribution to the work of the US Campaign. Current Advisory Board members are listed below. Organizational affiliations are for identification purposes only. Members of the US Campaign Advisory Board serve in their individual capacities.

- * **Rev. Dr. Fahed Abu-Akel**, Presbyterian Minister, Greater Atlanta Presbytery, Moderator of the 214th General Assembly PCUSA-2002-2003
- * **Susan Abulhawa**, author of *The Scar of David* and founder of Playgrounds for Palestine
- * **Huwaida Arraf**, International Solidarity Movement
- * **Prof. Naseer Aruri**, Chancellor Professor (Emeritus) at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
- * **Dr. Joel Beinin**, Professor of Middle East History, Stanford University; Middle East Research and Information Project, Jewish Voice for Peace
- * **Kathy Bergen**, Program Coordinator, Friends International Center in Ramallah
- * **Kathy Engel**, Poet, Creative and Communications Consultant, social justice, peace & human rights organizations; KickAss Artists
- * **Bill Fletcher Jr.**, Labor and international activist
- * **Nadia Hijab**, Writer and human rights advocate
- * **Hany Khalil**, former Grassroots Organizer at United for Peace and Justice national headquarters
- * **Prof. Rashid Khalidi**, Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies, Middle East Institute, Columbia University
- * **Prof. Mark Lance**, Georgetown University Professor of Philosophy
- * **Kevin Martin**, Executive Director, Peace Action and Peace Action Education Fund
- * **Nabil Mohamad**, American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
- * **Dr. Nancy Murray**, Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights
- * **Dr. Barbara Ransby**, Associate Professor of History and African-American Studies
- * **Mariam Said**

3. 2007 INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

Opening Balance (January 1, 2007)

Cash Assets	\$81,037
Fixed Assets	\$7,492
Inventory Assets	\$5,088
Accounts Receivable	\$17
Accounts Payable	(\$825)
Total	\$92,809

Income, 2007

Individual Contributions	\$140,736	53.3%
Foundation Grants/Fellowships	\$77,543	29.4%
Group Membership Dues	\$21,513	8.2%
Merchandise Sales (Profits)	\$14,783	5.6%
Conference Registrations	\$5,660	2.1%
Other Income (Dividends, Honorariums)	\$3,670	1.4%
Total	\$263,905	100%

Expenses, 2007

Direct Program Expenses	\$137,870	47.1%
Personnel Costs	\$105,013	35.9%
Office Expenses	\$27,436	9.4%
Fundraising Expenses	\$20,419	7.0%
General & Administration Expenses (Meetings)	\$1,873	0.6%
Total	\$292,611	100%

Net Income, (2007) **(\$28,706)**

Ending Balance (December 31, 2007)

Cash Assets	\$49,143
Fixed Assets	\$11,201
Inventory Assets	\$4,291
Accounts Receivable	\$410
Accounts Payable	(\$565)
Total	\$64,480