

BEYOND THE FRONTIERS OF TIME

**THE
MIDDLE EAST
IN THE
YEAR
2000**



A PROJECT



FRAMEWORK

This is NOT a political project, and therefore we refrain from suggesting how the Arab-Israeli conflict will be resolved. We do assume however that:

1. All existing Arab States and Israel will continue to exist in the year 2000.
2. The Palestinian problem will be resolved either within an existing Arab State or through a newly evolved Palestinian State.

Because we wish to detach this project from present-day political polemics, we refrain from any attempt to delineate frontiers.

Indeed, the central assumption of this project is that by the year 2000 frontiers will lose, in the Middle East, much of their present-day

importance. National states will continue to exist; but as in Western Europe today, frontiers will be open, and functional frameworks of cooperation, among countries, will in many fields extend beyond national frontiers. Briefly, this is an attempt to imagine human activities and human achievements in the Middle East, after the wars have ended.

Alternatively, this can be considered as an attempt to set concrete objectives for human activity, in the Middle East, beyond the conflict. This is NOT an exercise in Utopia, but an examination of long-term objectives which, we hope, may ultimately modify the objectives of both sides in the present conflict.

PHASES OF THE PROJECT

Our Association wishes to make this a group project, which is open to the participation of persons from all countries.

The project will be divided into three phases:

Phase 1: This is the present phase, in which we wish to recruit you as a participant in the project. In this phase we only present you with some data and with several concepts which we imagine may become feasible by the year 2000.

Because this is a group project, we do not intend at this phase to present our concepts in detail. We prefer to present now only some tentative ideas which may serve to stimulate your own imagination, and which may help you to develop ideas of your own.

Phase 2: In this phase we hope that you and other participants will respond by sending us your own ideas on the Middle East in the year 2000.

Because this is an exercise in constructive imagination, we do not wish to limit your response to any preconceived framework. If you have sufficient time to evolve and send us a complete project of your own, we shall accept it gratefully.

If you have time only to jot down a few comments, we shall be equally grateful.

Whatever your response, we should like to have it by the 1st of January, 1971.

(Phases of the project - cont.)

Phase 3: In this phase, our own research group will study the replies sent by all participants, with the objective of integrating them into a more comprehensive study. The study, when completed, will be distributed to all participants in this project, among whom you are included. In addition, we undertake to reply and comment individually to every response we receive from each participant in this project.

Beyond Phase 3: At this stage we do not plan to go beyond phase 3; but should the response to phase 3 be sufficiently encouraging, we may then decide to develop this project in depth, examining separately and in greater detail some of the concepts raised in the previous phases. Thus, for example, education in the Middle East in the year 2000 may become a subject for a complete and separate study, or irrigation in the Middle East in the year 2000, and so forth.

HOW THIS PAMPHLET IS ORGANISED

This pamphlet is organised in three parts: First we present some basic data on Middle East countries, with projections of that data into the future. This data is provided for your convenience, to save you time looking up for it in reference books. The interpolations of this data into the future are our own and of course they are open to any comment, criticism and

modification you may wish to make. Secondly, we present some tentative concepts on human activities in the Middle East in the year 2000. These concepts are still in nutshell form. They are intended mainly to stimulate your own independent thinking on this project. Lastly, we shall suggest how you may make your own personal contribution to this project.



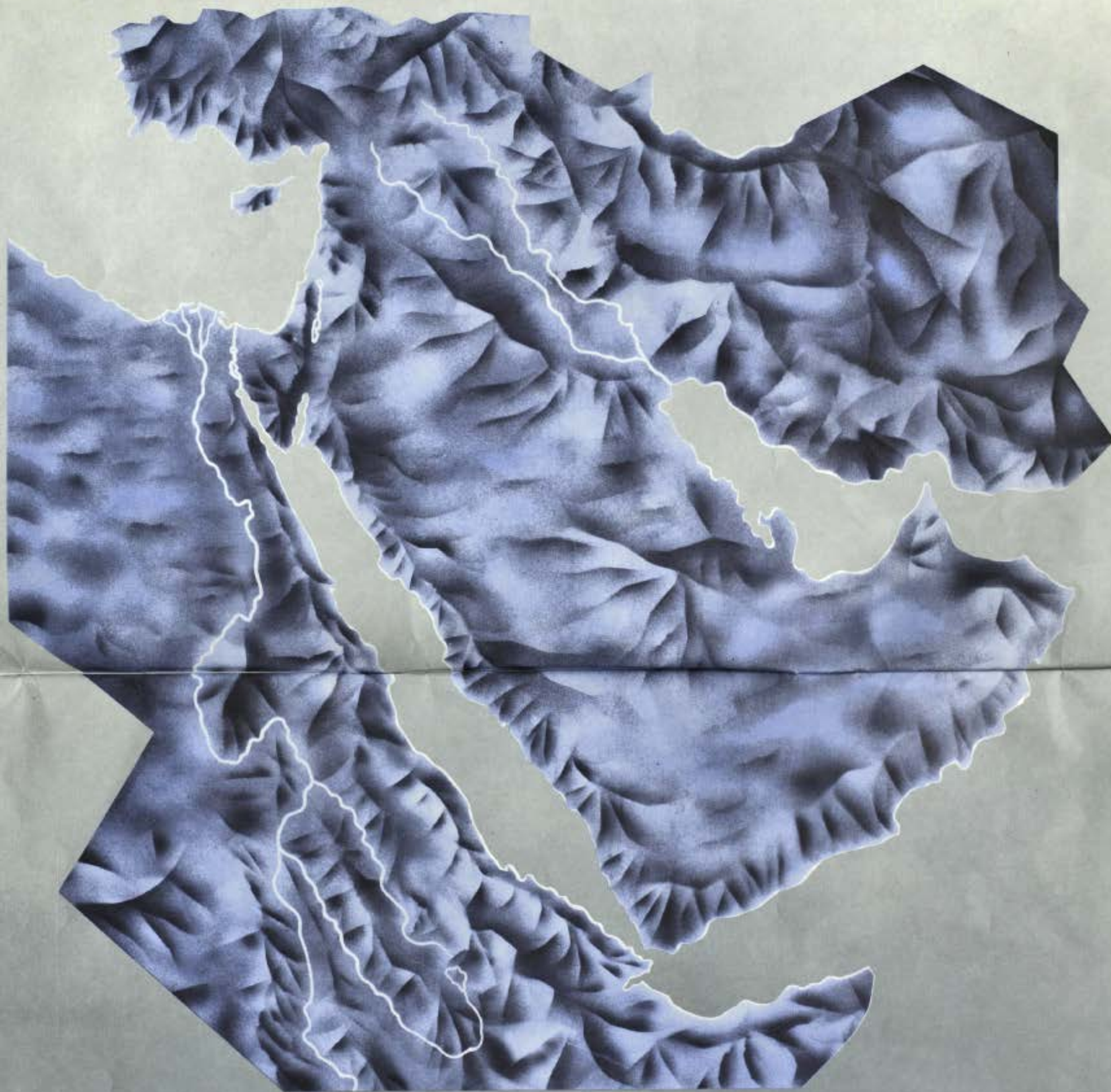
THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE
MIDDLE EAST IN THE
YEAR 2000

This is the Middle East in the year 2000.

Its basic geography has not changed.

It is still bounded by the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. There are high mountains in the north, and vast deserts in the south, and two great river valleys from which 8000 years ago ancient civilization grew.

What is the civilization of the Middle East in the year 2000?



POPULATION IN THE YEAR 2000

This is the civilization of the Middle East in the year 2000. It shares the universal heritage of Moslem – Christian – Jewish civilization into which has been integrated 21st century modern technology.

Within this common heritage a diversity of nations evolve, each with its own unique national culture, and its own unique contribution to human life in this region.

How many people will live in the Middle East in the year 2000?

Today the population of the Middle East approximates 100 million people.

In the year 2000, as many as 200 million people, or more, will live in the Middle East.

Small countries such as Lebanon and Israel may well cope with the expected rise in the size of their population. But for the larger countries, such as the UAR and Iran, the size of their population in the year 2000 may well become the key to the possibilities of human achievement and progress. In those countries the

opportunities for human achievement will grow in an inverse ratio to the rate of growth of the population. We present projections of possible population growth in some Middle East countries. It is assumed that birth-control techniques have been adopted, with varying degrees of success in all countries.



INDEPENDENT NATIONS – YEAR 2000

HOW LONG WILL THEY LIVE?

People in all Middle East countries can, by the year 2000, expect to live longer than at present.

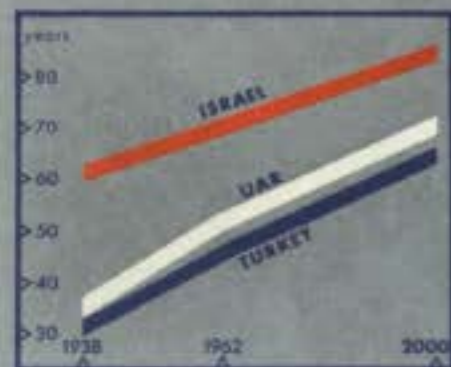
Two great processes will contribute to the rising expectation of life:

1. Improved medical services;
2. A rising standard of living.

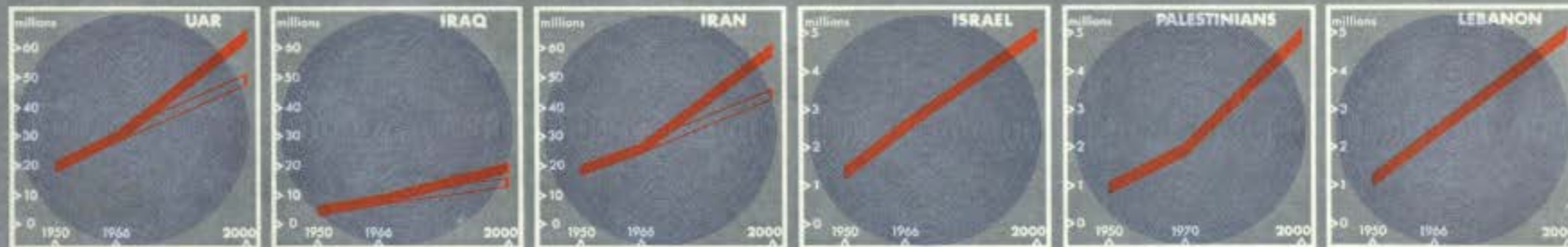
The rising expectation of life of course raises questions which are universal: what will man do with an extended span of life? How is a man to structure his life? How many cycles of activity are feasible within the span of a longer lifetime?

At this phase of our project, we do not intend even to try and answer those questions.

EXPECTATION OF LIFE OF MEN



POPULATION GROWTH IN SOME MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

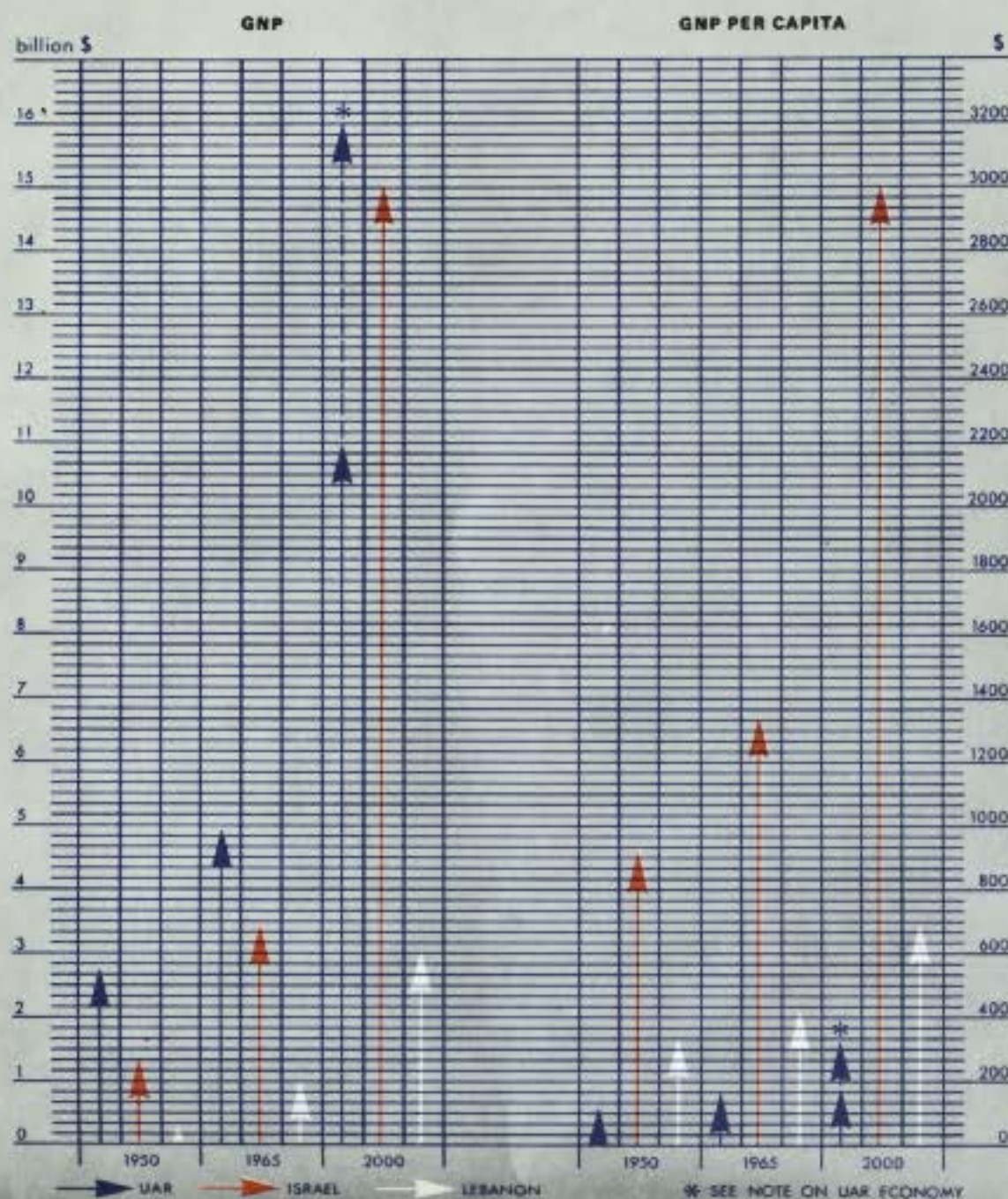


Indicates possible size of population if birth-control practice becomes widespread and effective.

THE RISING STANDARD OF LIVING

People in all Middle East countries will enjoy, by the year 2000, a higher standard of living. For some, the rise will be tremendous. For others, it may be marginal, or even illusory. In the countries with a large population the rise in the standard of living of the individual will depend on two main processes.

1. The rate of growth of the population, or: how many people will share the rising national income?
2. The extent of national expenditure for military purposes. The less spent for military purposes, the more will be available for raising the standard of living of the population. More will also be available for constructive investment which in its turn contributes to the rising standard of living.



2000

NOTE ON UAR ECONOMY IN THE YEAR 2000

UAR GNP and GNP per capita will be influenced by two major factors:

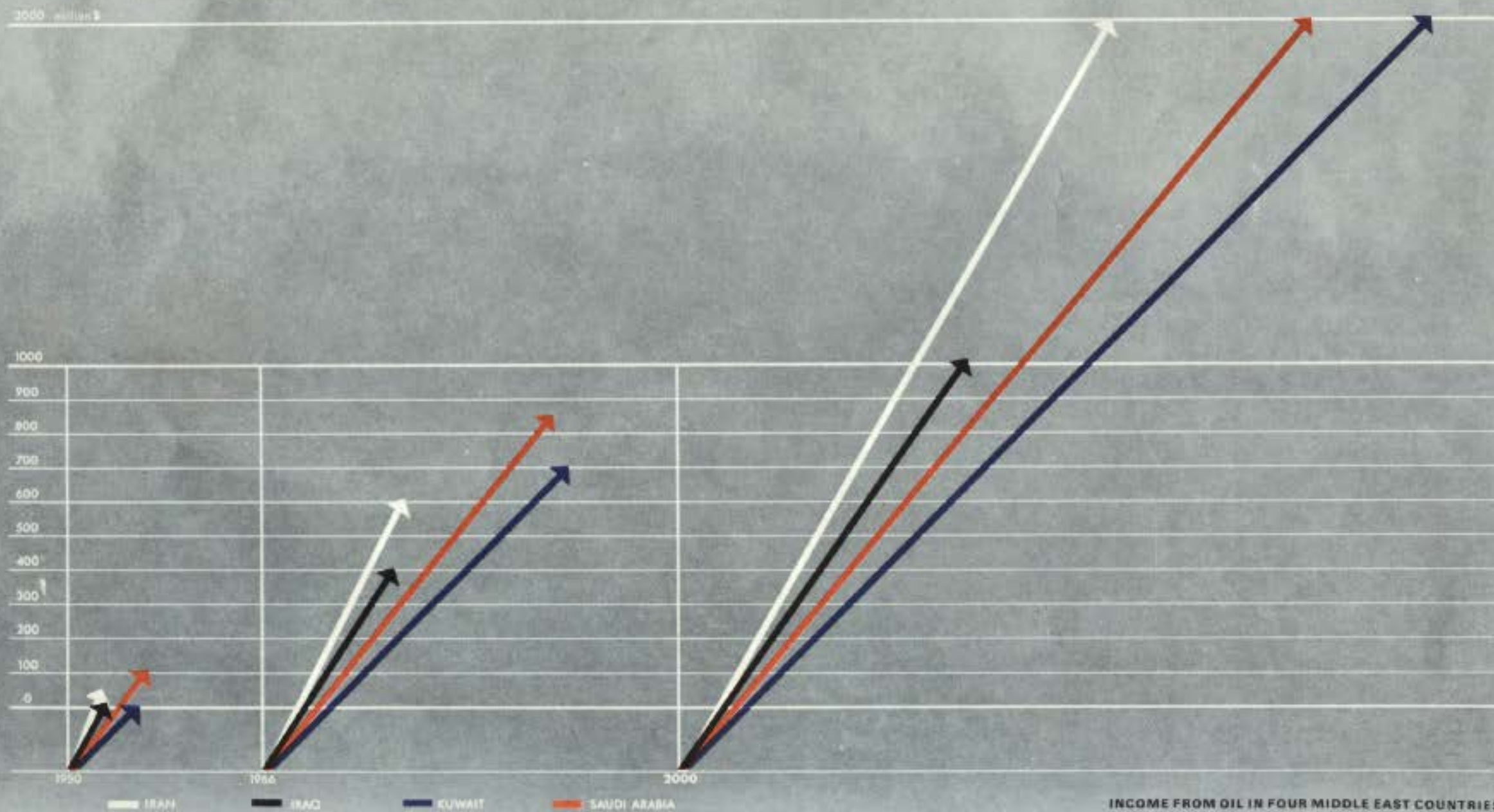
1. How long the UAR maintains a major military effort. Should the UAR-Israeli conflict remain unresolved, or last nearly until the year 2000, this may slow down considerably the rate of GNP growth.
2. The rate of growth of the population. GNP per capita will obviously depend on the size of the population, which in turn depends on the effectivity of the spread of birth-control methods.

UAR ECONOMY IN THE YEAR 2000 - POSSIBLE PROJECTIONS

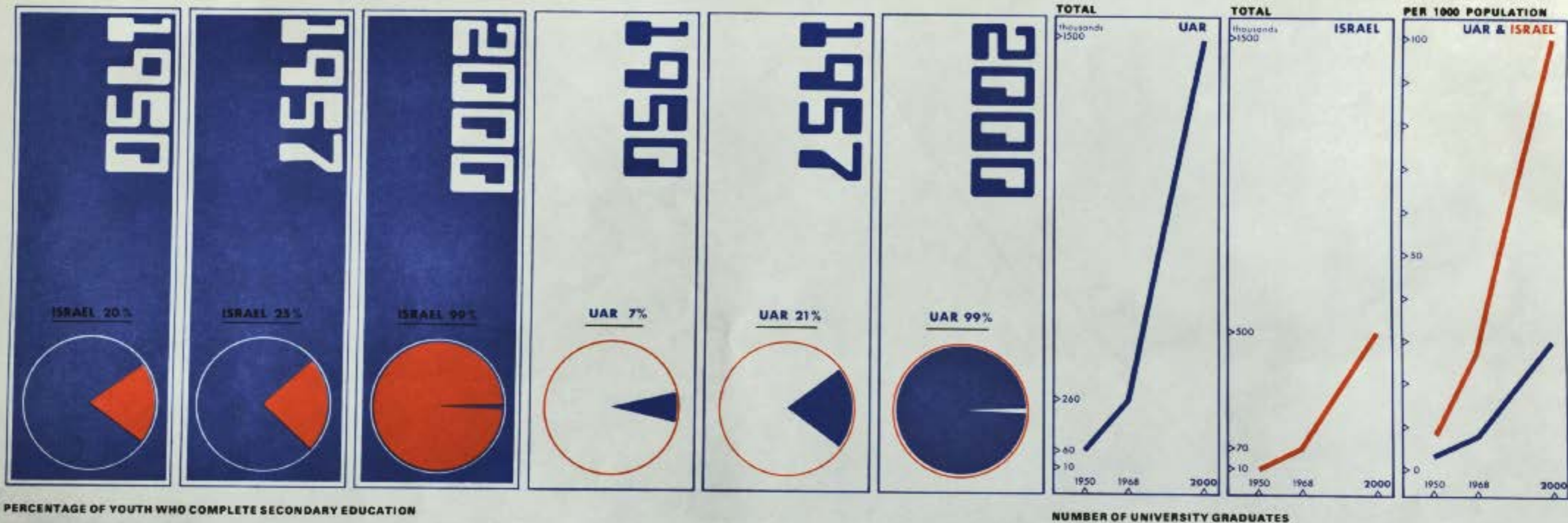
	ASSUMING WAR LASTS ALMOST OR UNTIL 2000	ASSUMING THE CONFLICT HAS BEEN RESOLVED LONG BEFORE 2000
ASSUMING A POPULATION OF 65 MILLION	GNP - 11 billion dollars GNP per capita - 170 dollars	GNP - 16 billion dollars GNP per capita - 250 dollars
ASSUMING A POPULATION OF 50 MILLION	GNP - 11 billion dollars GNP per capita - 220 dollars	GNP - 16 billion dollars GNP per capita - 320 dollars

OIL AS A SOURCE OF GROWTH

In the year 2000 the annual income of Middle East countries from the export of oil will total more than 10 billion dollars. 90% of this income will be invested in national economies. The remaining 10% (at least one billion dollars) will be dedicated to common research and development projects.



All oil-producing countries in the Middle East are also desert countries. A significant part of their income may be dedicated to desert development.

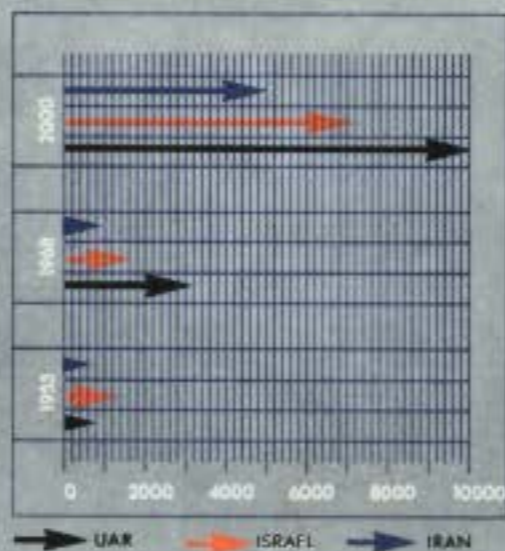


EDUCATION BECOMES THE MAJOR EFFORT OF NATIONS

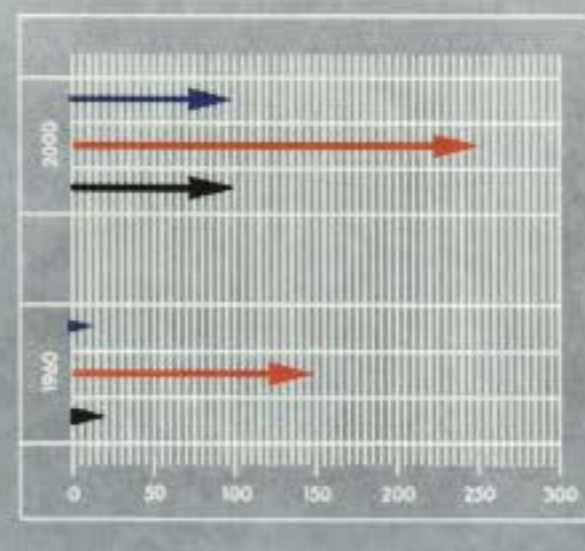
As is well known the rate of a nation's economic and technical growth is directly related to its educational effort, especially in the field of university education. With the decline of national expenditure for military purposes education will become in the year 2000 the major item in every nation's budget. A nation's potential and prestige will be determined by the size and seriousness of its commitment to education, by the scope and standard of the educational facilities available to its citizens, and by its general contributions to the universal community of science. In the year 2000, more books will be read, more newspapers will be bought, and more information will be accessible through an ever-increasing number of television sets.



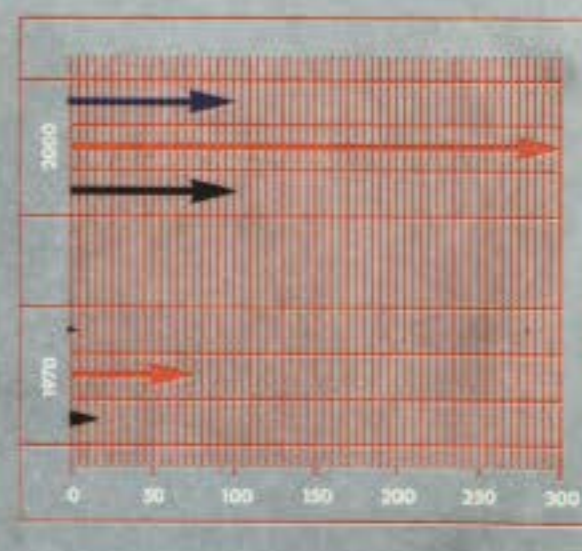
BOOKS PRINTED IN A SINGLE YEAR



DAILY NEWSPAPER PRINTED PER 1000 POPULATION

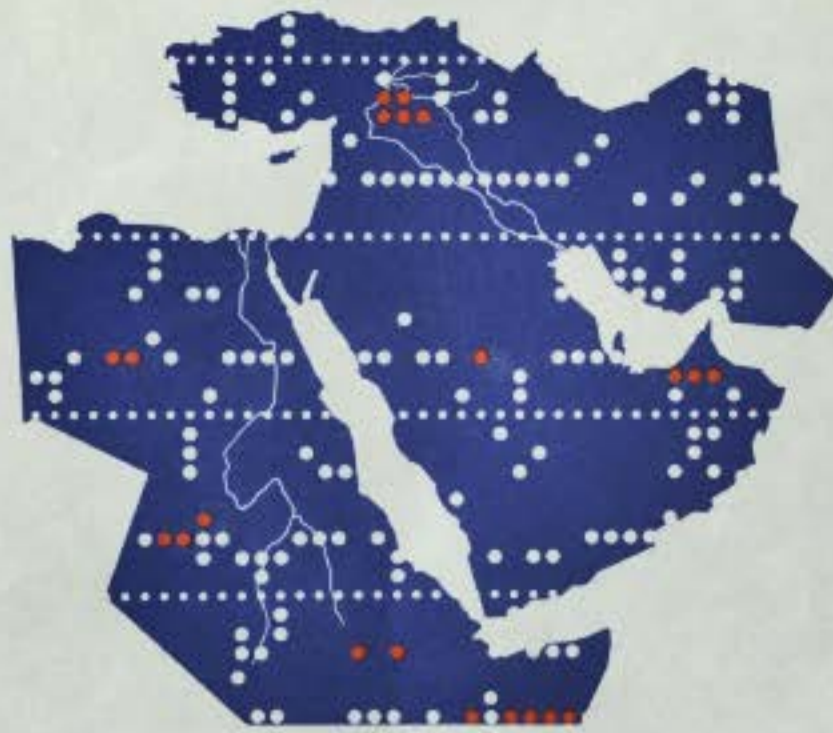


TELEVISION SETS PER 1000 POPULATION



THE INCREASING ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

In the year 2000 all Middle East countries will dedicate an increasing share of their national effort to scientific research. The number of computers in a country may serve as one of the indications of its scientific potential.

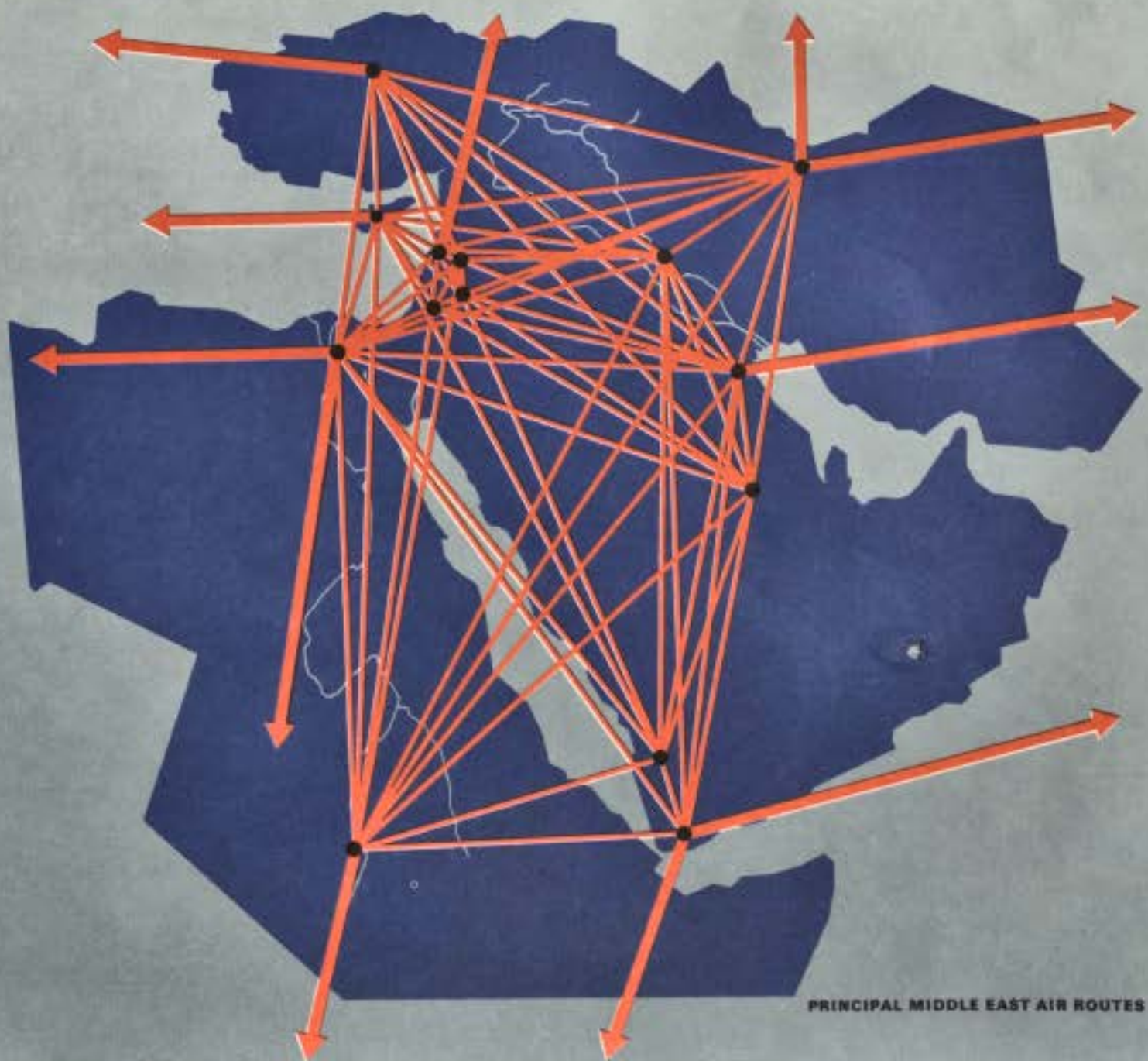


NUMBER OF COMPUTERS IN USE



FREE AND RAPID COMMUNICATION

Communication through the Middle East will, in the year 2000, be both free and rapid. Freedom of communication will mean free passage through national frontiers. Rapid communication will be facilitated in the air by supersonic jets carrying passengers, at a cheap fare and on the ground by international highways which will enable cars to travel at speeds of 150 kmh and above.



TRAVELLING TIME BY SST BETWEEN PRINCIPAL CENTRES

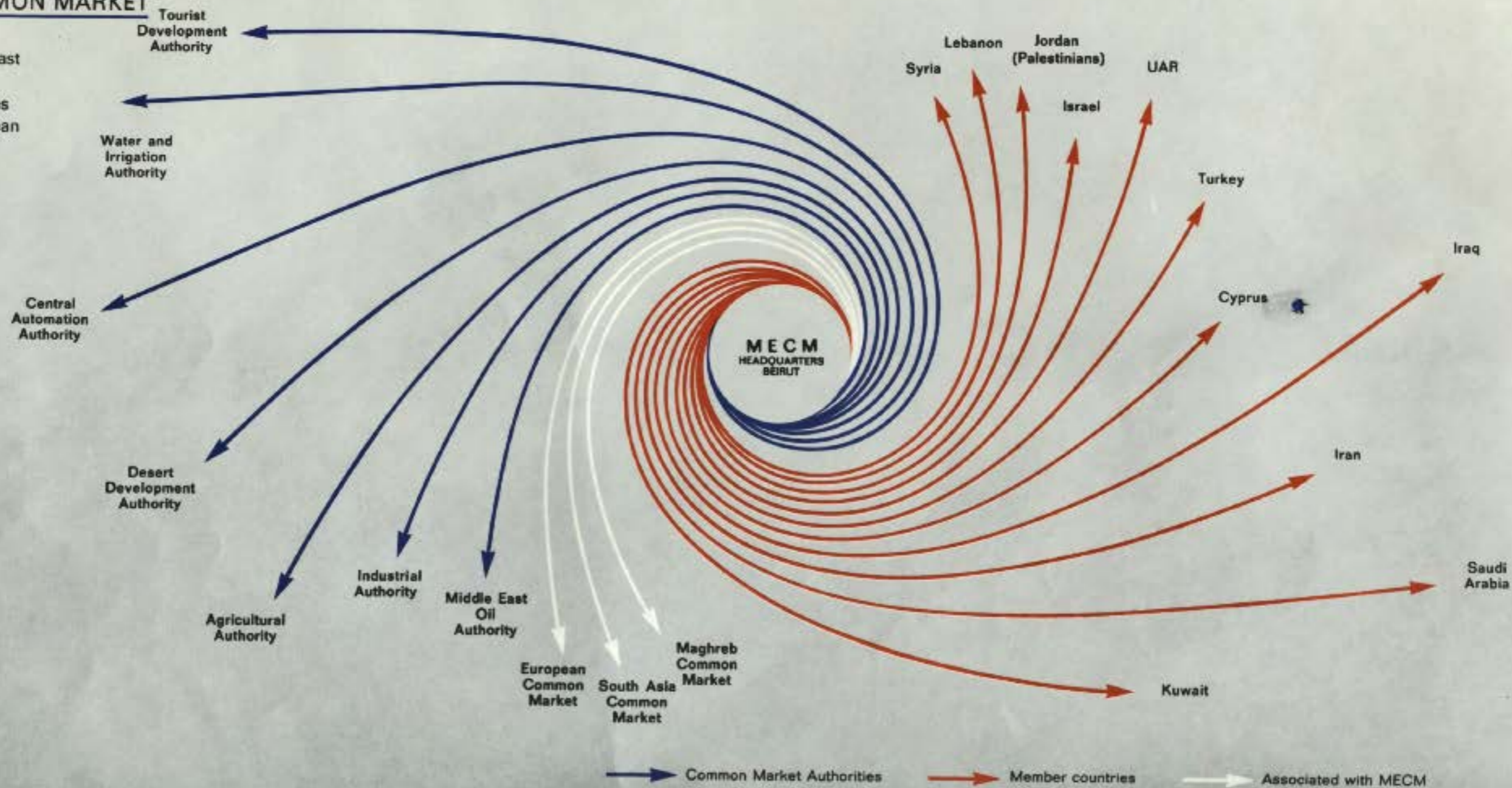
	CAIRO	JERUSALEM	BAGHDAD	TEHRAN
CAIRO	—	10 minutes	25 minutes	40 minutes
JERUSALEM	10 minutes	—	18 minutes	30 minutes
BAGHDAD	25 minutes	18 minutes	—	15 minutes
TEHRAN	40 minutes	30 minutes	15 minutes	—

TRAVELLING TIME BY CAR ON INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAYS

	CAIRO	JERUSALEM	BAGHDAD	TEHRAN
CAIRO	—	3 hrs	9 hrs	14 hrs
JERUSALEM	3 hrs	—	6 hrs	11 hrs
BAGHDAD	9 hrs	6 hrs	—	5 hrs
TEHRAN	14 hrs	11 hrs	5 hrs	—

MIDDLE EAST COMMON MARKET

By the year 2000 a Middle East Common Market will be in operation, based on principles similar to those of the European Common Market and in association with it. The headquarters of the Middle East Common Market will (of course) be in Beirut.



IN COOPERATION – DIVERSITY

The existence of the MECM will enable the countries of the Middle East, by the year 2000, to develop each according to its unique capabilities. There will be no restrictions on the development of natural economies but because of the open market, they will develop so as to become more or less complementary to each other.



Some of the major efforts of national economies in the year 2000:

UAR: Engineering industries, steel, cars, motors.

ISRAEL: Electronics, computers, medicine.

SYRIA: Food industries and textiles.

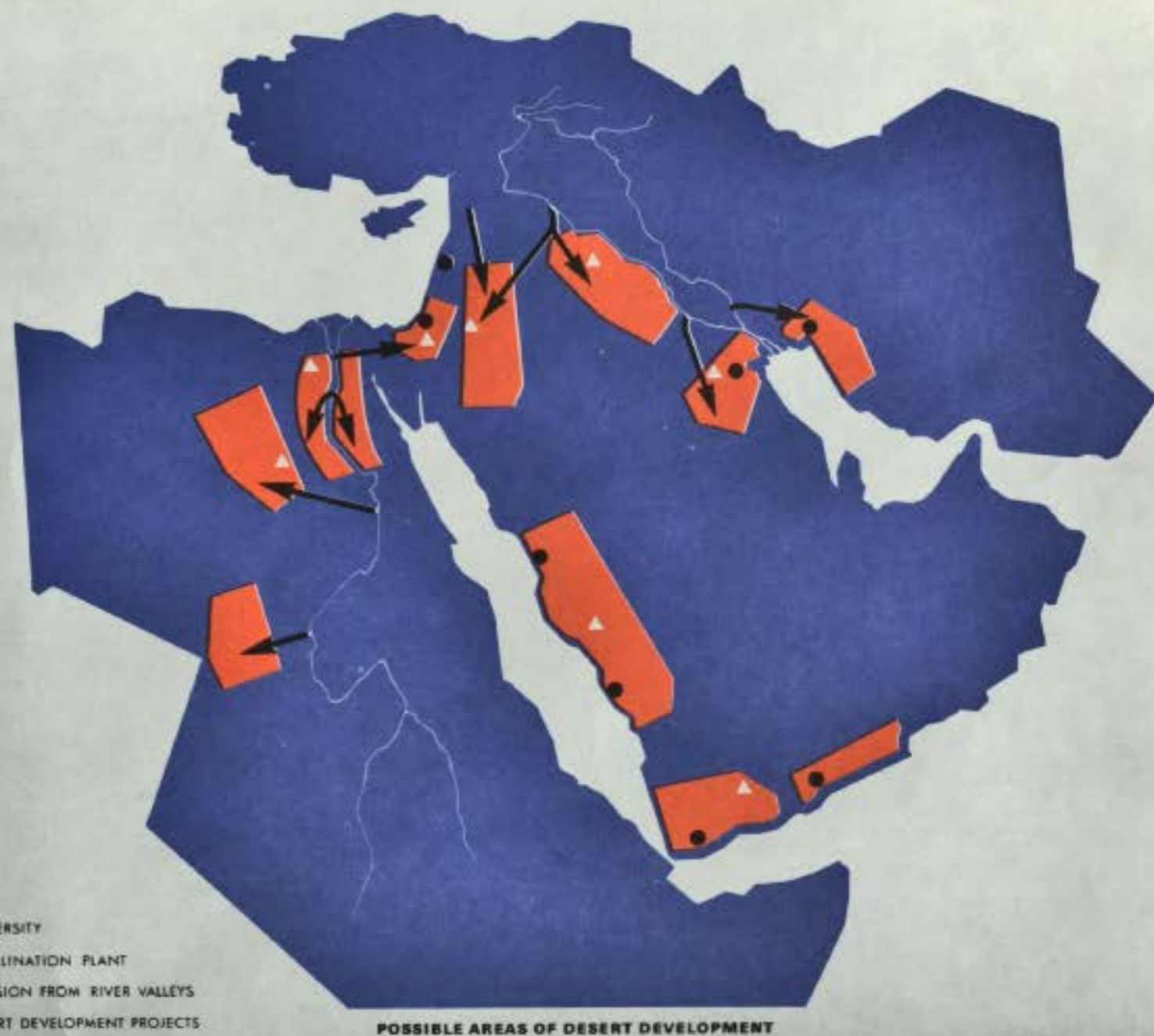
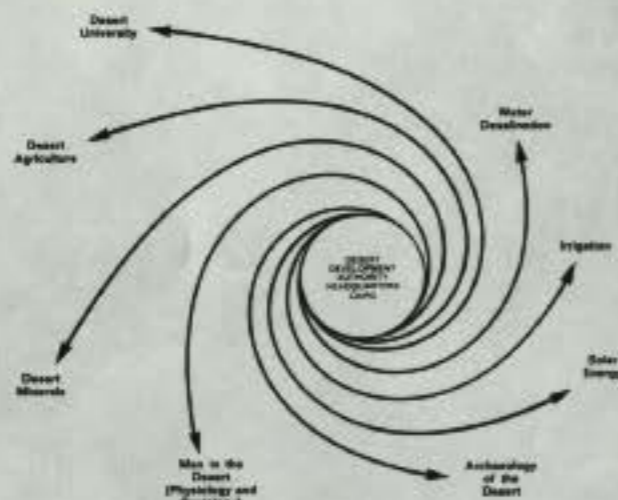
IRAQ AND THE GULF: Petrochemical industries.

LEBANON: Banking, trading, transport and communication services.

DESERT INTO CIVILIZATION

In the year 2000 a concerted effort will be made by all Middle East countries to transform the desert into civilization. Major technologies of irrigation, water desalination, and desert agriculture, will be developed in common. Drawing upon the common fund of experience, every nation will apply its own efforts in the desert regions within its frontiers.

MIDDLE EAST DESERT AUTHORITY - A CONCEPT



AGRICULTURE INTO PLENTY

The main trends in agriculture in the year 2000 will be:

1. Greater productivity per acre.
2. More acres under production.
3. Towards automation.

THE MARKET GARDEN OF EUROPE

The Middle East will supply Europe all the year round with the following agricultural products:

Oranges
Lemons
Grapefruits
Mandarines
Nuts
Melons
Olives
Tomatoes
Water melons
Strawberries
Pears
Almonds
Mangoes
Bananas
Cucumbers
Avocados
Pepper
Onion
Garlic
Potatoes
Aubergines
Grapes
Apples
New types of fruit (still nameless)
New types of vegetables (still nameless)

RIISING AGRICULTURAL YIELDS



TOURISM MAKES US ALL NEIGHBOURS

In the year 2000 tourism will be a major industry in all Middle East countries and an increasing leisure-time activity of all classes. The increasing incomes, open and rapid communication and cheap fares will enable millions of people in this region, to venture further than their homes, and visit other nations. There will also be a tremendous flow of tourists from all corners of the world, who will visit the Middle East.



MAIN FLOWS OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE YEAR 2000

LOCAL TOURISM IN THE YEAR 2000

- Two million Egyptians can be expected to visit annually the holy sites of Islam.
- One million Iranians can be expected to visit annually the countries of the East Mediterranean littoral.
- Half a million Israelis can be expected to visit annually Lebanon, Egypt and other Middle East countries.
- Up to two million people from the Middle East can be expected to visit annually countries beyond this region.

6000
YEARS OF HISTORY ARE
2
HOURS AWAY

ANCIENT
CIVILIZATION
NEW SOCIETY

שבת ומועד
היילוק

اعرف اسرائيل
زيارات شعبية
في الاماكن المقدسة
في الكمبيوترات
في مراكز العلم والطب

شركة مصر للسياحة

EDUCATION SUPERCEDES DEFENCE

In the year 2000 education will become the main field of cooperation and competition between ME countries. With the decline of military budgets, education will become the main item of national expenditure.

The main trends in education will be:

- 12-year secondary education for all children.
- University education will be freely available to all who are capable and willing to follow academic studies.
- There will be new university towns and universities will become a major factor of influence in national and regional development.
- An increasing number of people will be employed in research work.

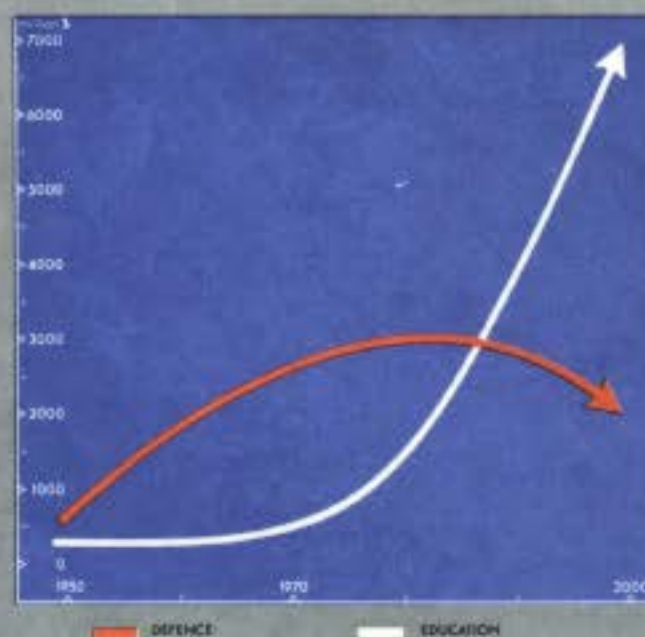


▲ DESERT UNIVERSITY
● GENERAL PURPOSE UNIVERSITY
— GENERAL COMPUTER LINK SYSTEM
— COMPUTER LINK AMONG DESERT UNIVERSITIES

MIDDLE EAST UNIVERSITIES IN THE YEAR 2000



EXPENDITURE OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL ON DEFENCE AND EDUCATION



THE UNIVERSITY AS A FRAMEWORK OF CHANGE

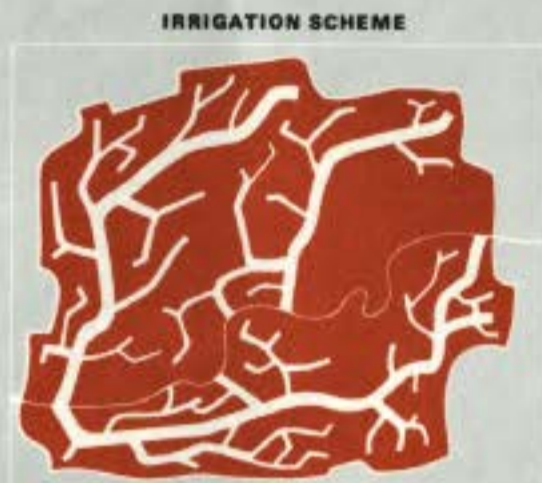
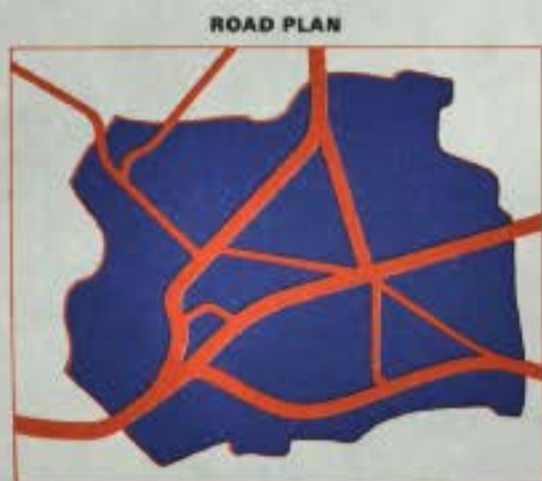
In the year 2000, universities will become, in the Middle East, the major source of change. The role of universities will be twofold:

They will be part of the world university community, and in close communication with universities abroad.

They will play a national role in adapting the universal advances in science and technology to local human needs.

The local experience they acquire will, in its turn, be made available for the universal community of science.

SOME CONCEPTS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Universities will become the main consultants to governments in the following fields:

- Economic planning
- Urban development
- Rural development
- Education
- Health (including mental health)
- Population and birth control
- Scientific research and technological development

Universities will become active participants in new national ventures such as:

- Transformation of urban slums into modern development projects (integrated schemes for housing, education, employment, health and social services).
- Transformation of desert regions into model development projects (integrated schemes for irrigation, agriculture, industry, housing, employment, education and social services).
- Transformation of rural regions into model development projects (integrated schemes for irrigation, agriculture, industry, housing, employment, education and social services).

THE UNLIMITED NEED FOR UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

A country such as the UAR may require in the year 2000:

30 000 architects to plan and design new urban and rural projects down to the single housing unit.

50 000 social scientists and social workers to plan and carry out the transformation of urban and rural slums into model projects.

500 000 teachers for secondary education to all children and for adult education.

40 000 agricultural experts to participate in research, planning and development of the agricultural sector.

50 000 programmers for computers.

100 000 mathematicians, physicists, chemists, biologists, to do pure and applied research, and to teach in universities and in schools.

REQUIREMENTS OF A MODEL REGION FOR UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

URBAN UNIT – POPULATION 100,000

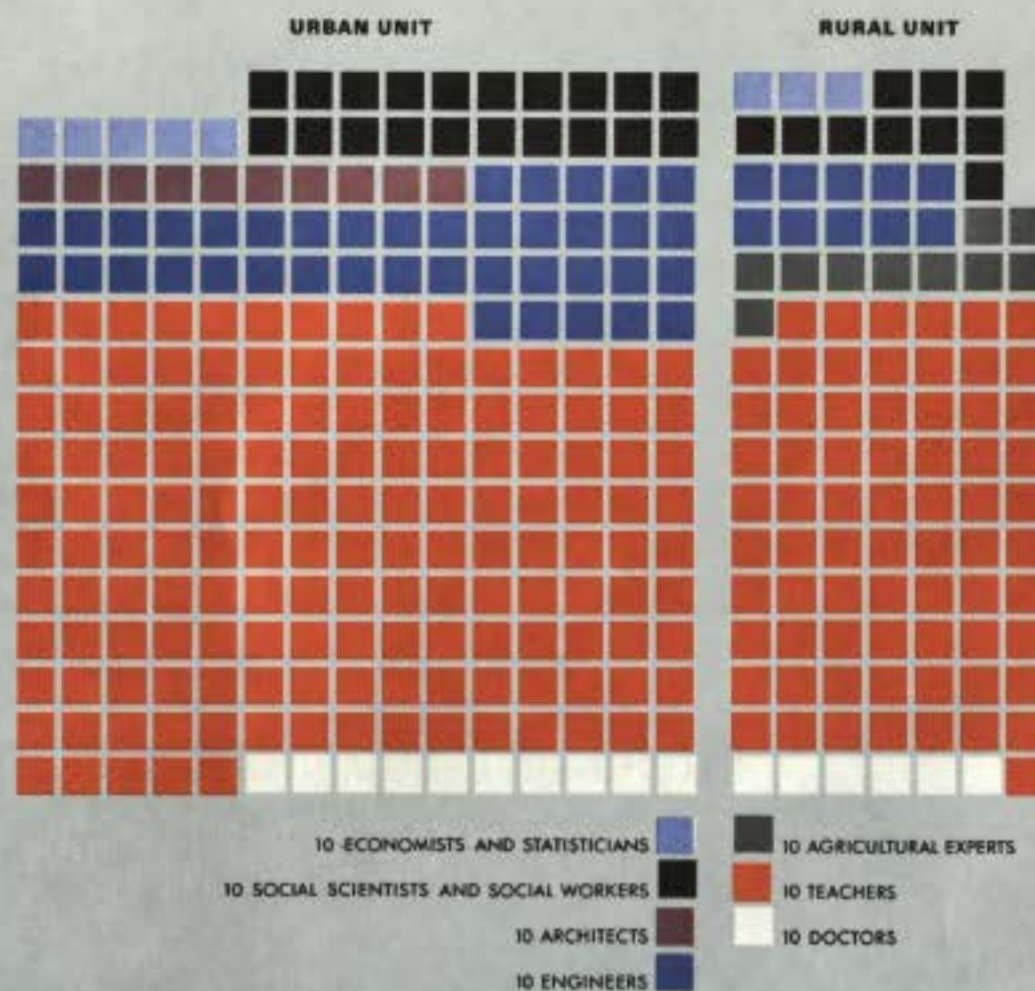
This unit could be a single town, or a district in big city such as Cairo, or Tehran.

Economists and statisticians: 50
 Social Scientists and Social Workers: 200
 Architects: 100
 Engineers: 400
 Teachers: 1500
 Doctors: 100

RURAL UNIT – POPULATION 50,000

This unit could be a region with an urban centre (population up to 20,000) and surrounding villages.

Economists and statisticians: 30
 Agricultural experts: 100
 Social Scientists and Social Workers: 100
 Engineers: 100
 Teachers: 700
 Doctors: 60



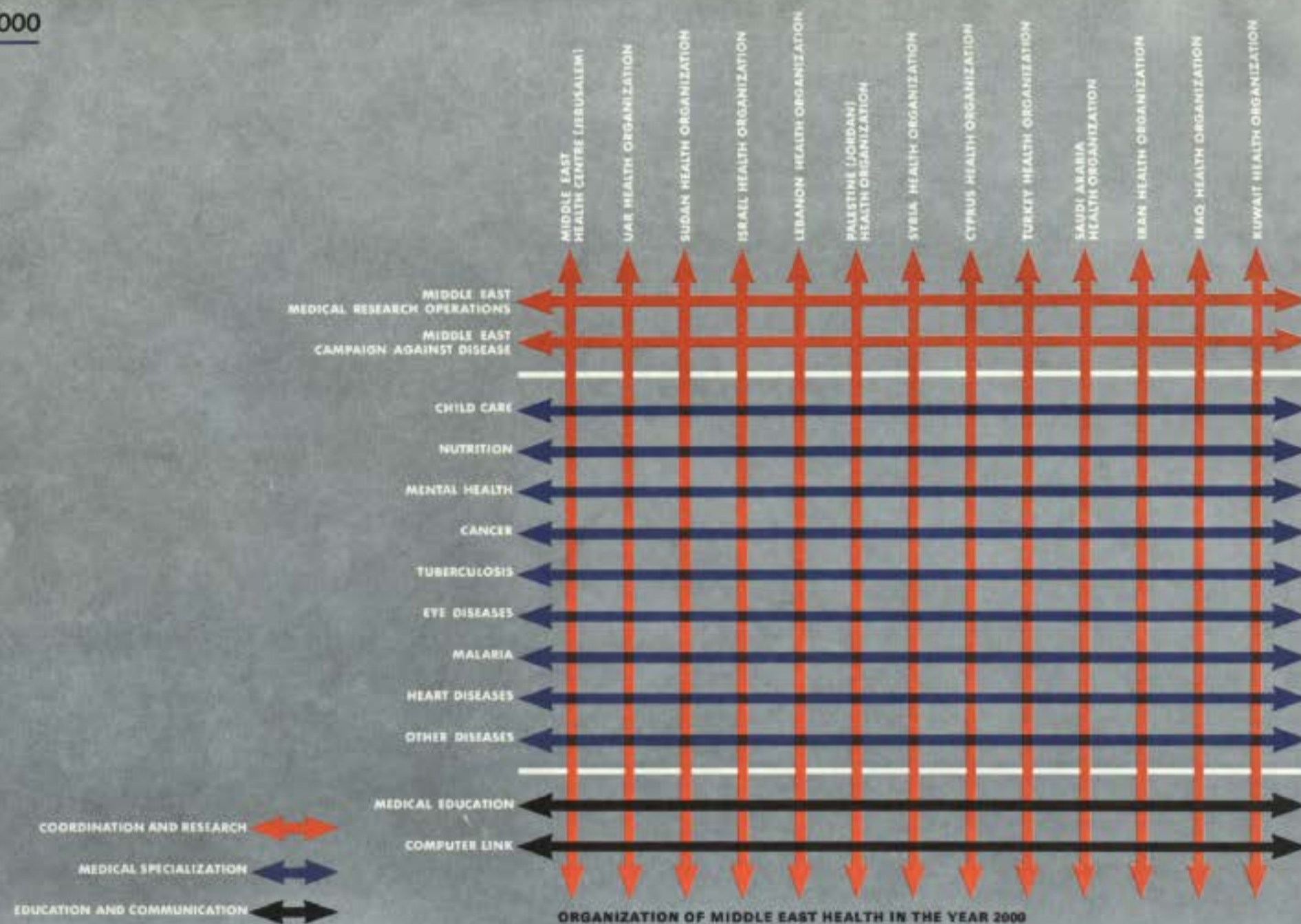
CONQUEST OF DISEASE IN THE YEAR 2000

In the year 2000 Middle East countries will not, as yet, embark on an independent space programme. But a considerable effort will be devoted to the improvement of people's health and the eradication of disease.

The conquest of disease will be organised as a regional campaign with local national efforts.

Some Highlights:

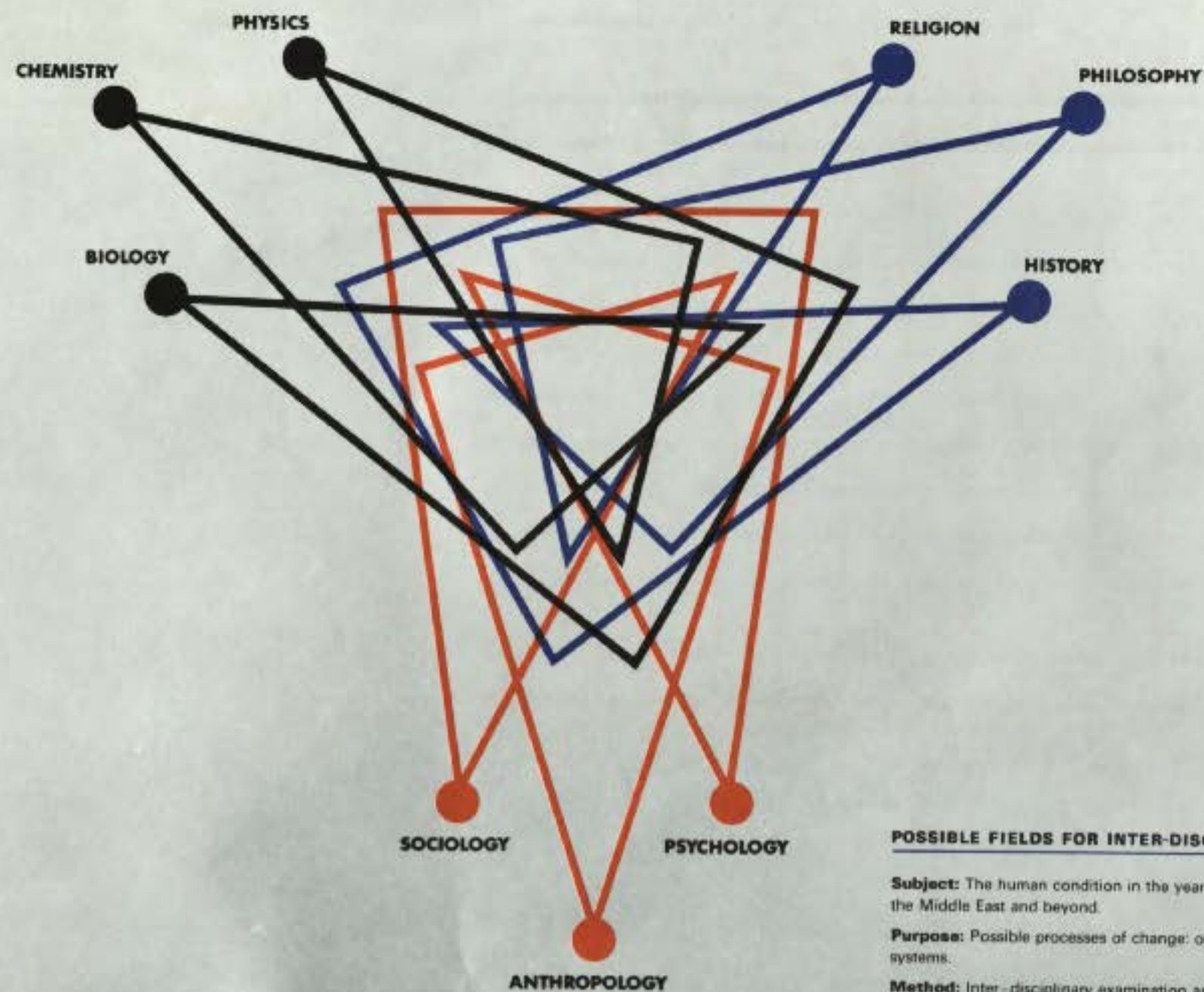
- General immunization against cancer.
- The death rate of infants (at present 20%–30% in several ME countries) will be lowered below 1%.
- In Egypt: eye-trachoma (which at present affects a large portion of the population) will be liquidated.
- In Iran: tuberculosis will be liquidated.



THE MEETING OF RELIGION AND SCIENCE

It is fitting that in the year 2000 the Middle East, from whence grew three great religions, should become the central meeting place of religion and science.

Jerusalem, on which converge the traditions of the three great religions, can very well become the place where bishops, muftis and rabbis meet with physicists, biologists, social scientists and philosophers, to discuss the fundamental questions regarding man himself, his relationship with other men and with the universe.



POSSIBLE FIELDS FOR INTER-DISCIPLINARY THOUGHT

Subject: The human condition in the year 2000 – in the Middle East and beyond.

Purpose: Possible processes of change: objectives and systems.

Method: Inter-disciplinary examination and planning



Some tentative questions:

- What human needs did the three great religions satisfy? And what is there in their teachings that remains valid today?

- Is the scientific view of the universe compatible with the teachings of the great religions?

- Is the universality of scientific laws an extension of the monotheistic creed?

- Are science and religion in a common front against irrational and anarchic views of the universe?

WHAT WILL BE THE PROSPECTS OF A MAN LIVING IN THE YEAR 2000



<u>If he is an:</u>	<u>His average expectation of life in the year 2000 will be:</u>	<u>His chances of completing 12-year education</u>	<u>His chances of completing university education</u>	<u>His average annual income will be (in dollars)</u>	<u>The chances of his family owning a television will be</u>	<u>His chances of owning a car will be</u>	<u>His chances of visiting a foreign country will be</u>
Egyptian	70	99%	10%	300	30%	10%	30%
Israeli	85	99%	40%	3000	95%	95%	90%
Palestinian	75	99%	25%	1300	60%	35%	60%
Iranian	65	99%	15%	400	40%	15%	40%

HOW OLD WILL YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR CHILDREN BE IN THE YEAR 2000

<u>The age of those born in –</u>	<u>will in the year 2000 be:</u>	
1915	85	This is probably your age group
1920	80	
1925	75	
1930	70	
1935	65	
1940	60	
1945	55	
1950	50	
1955	45	This is probably your children's age group
1960	40	
1965	35	
1970	30	
1975	25	
1980	20	This is probably your grandchildren's age group
1985	15	
1990	10	
1995	5	

NOTHING IS INEVITABLE

"In the condition of modern life, the rule is absolute: the race which does not value trained intelligence is doomed. Not all your heroism, not all your social charm, not all your wit, not all your victories on land or sea, can move back the finger of fate. Today we maintain ourselves. Tomorrow science will have moved forward yet one more step, and there will be no appeal from the judgment which will be pronounced on the uneducated".

A. N. Whitehead, *The Aims of Education and Other Essays*.
(New York, Macmillan, 1929)

The developments we have projected are all feasible, but they are not to be considered as inevitable.

If all thinking citizens of the Middle East will just sit and wait for the developments to happen, then nothing will happen.

If conflict with other nations remains the major preoccupation of Middle East countries, then also developments will take a very different course.

Those countries whose central effort is concerned with the *human condition* – education, health and social progress – will continue their advance.

Whether in conflict, or beyond conflict, they will probably reach the human objectives which our project describes. But those countries whose central effort remains tied up with power and destruction, rather than the amelioration of the human condition, will find themselves increasingly lagging behind. Instead of belonging to the vanguard of human venture, they will belong to the desperate rear guard clinging to the past. For the challenge of the year 2000 is above all the challenge of reason and its intelligent application to the human condition. Those who avoid this challenge and dissipate their will on escape from reason, will enter the 21st century as prisoners of the past. Their world, thirty years hence, will not be a much better world and the human condition in their countries will remain miserable.

Those who accept this challenge, and apply reason honestly and intelligently to the amelioration of the human condition, will enter the 21st century already belonging to the free community of the future.





NO RULES AND SOME SUGGESTIONS

Your role in this project is to make your own contribution, in whatever form you choose.

We do not wish to limit you in scope, subject or detail. But to facilitate your task we suggest some possible forms of response:

1. Critical examination of the projections of data into the future.
2. Development of one concept, or some, into a full plan.
3. Presentation of new concepts, in nutshell form, or in detail.
4. Suggestions on the application of new technologies for the benefit of Middle East society.
5. General comment on our own ideas.
6. Data which may help us in the next phase of the project.
7. Slogans, drawings, illustrations, which may be incorporated in the presentation of the next phase of the project.

SOME HARD QUESTIONS

We are painfully aware that a project such as ours cannot possibly cover from the start all important aspects of life, whether individual or social.

We can easily think of subjects which we have omitted, and which are of primary importance, such as:

- What will be the life in a Middle East village in the year 2000? How will a typical Middle East village family live in the year 2000?
- What kind of life can be envisaged for a nation burdened with an overpopulation of many millions? What kind of opportunities should such a nation offer to its teeming millions? More leisure? More education? Or more conflict?
- To what extent are the leaders and opinion makers of a nation free to plan the development of their nation according to hard facts and rational priorities? Is it at all possible for opinion makers and national leaders to evolve a leadership which breaks through existing cultural patterns and dominant prejudices?
- What are the educational possibilities to bring a nation up to the intellectual structures necessary for a *21st century society*?
- Who are the opinion makers and leaders best equipped to lead a nation in its evolution towards the needs and achievements of *21st century society*?

Those are some of the hard questions which we ask. You may, or you may not, wish to answer them. You may, if you wish, add questions of your own. As we stated from the beginning, there are no rules about how or what you contribute to our project.



TECHNICAL AIDS

If you wish to consult some books, you will find below a suggested bibliography.

In addition, requests for information, addressed to us in connection with this project, will be answered, within our capabilities.

For your convenience we attach a few copies of a blank Middle East map.

Should you wish to order (free of charge) more copies of this pamphlet, an order form is also attached. This may enable you to organise a discussion group for an examination of this project.

AN EXPERIMENT

Lastly, we remind you that this is only the first phase in an experimental project.

The next phase of this experiment and the shape into which it evolves, depend to a large extent on the response we receive from participants like yourself.

All you need now is a pencil and paper, and the decision to communicate.



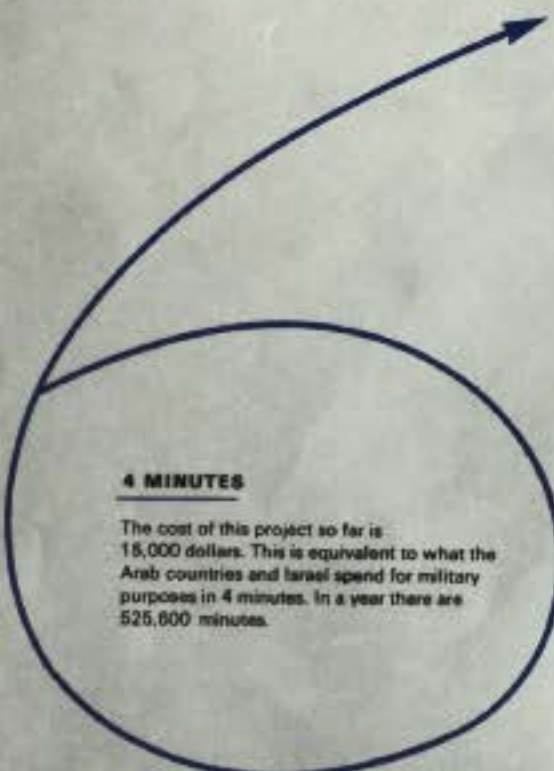
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4 MINUTES

The cost of this project so far is 15,000 dollars. This is equivalent to what the Arab countries and Israel spend for military purposes in 4 minutes. In a year there are 525,600 minutes.

ABOUT OURSELVES

AFP – The Association for Peace – was founded in Jerusalem in 1968. We are a private voluntary group, engaged in the encouragement of discussion on the resolution of the Arab–Israeli conflict.

Our Association includes writers, journalists, and other professional people. We are not attached to any political organisation, nor are we committed to any political ideology. Our single motivation is to communicate with as wide a range of persons

as possible, on the problems of the Arab–Israeli conflict and to elicit response and discussion on those problems.

Our activities are conducted from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Our address is 5, Ahuzat Bayit St., P.O.B. 17197, Tel Aviv

For the convenience of corresponding with Arab countries, we also maintain an address in Rome: Roma, C.P. 6204, Italia.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR PEACE
Tel Aviv, Israel