



## UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

799 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

**1972-10-18, Assad,**

October 18, 1972

**Embassy, Wash**

Mr. Thomas J. Scoles  
NEA/ARN  
Department of State

Dear Tom:

As I mentioned on the phone, Rafic Jouejati approached me the other day to ask for suggestions on how he might go about getting two or three scholarships for members of the Syrian Mission to attend US universities for six to twelve months, principally for the purpose of improving their English.

The genesis of the request was apparently some admonition of the Mission by the Foreign Minister while he was here, and Rafic countered with the proposal that the Mission could be more effective in its work and contacts if the officers knew English better. The Minister agreed that, if scholarships could be found, two or three of the members of the Mission could be released from their regular duties to study for six to twelve months, while continuing to draw their regular salaries. Rafic would prefer it if these scholarships could be found at universities elsewhere. New York area, but would not rule out locations elsewhere. He thought that if something could be worked out it would, in addition to serving their immediate interests, also be a very useful exposure of the Syrian officials to the United States in a manner that they would not get otherwise.

This strikes me as a worthwhile idea. I thought I would contact Jay Hurewitz, who is John Badeau's successor at Columbia, and Phil Talbot at the Asia Society to see if they have any ideas which I might pass along to Rafic. I would also welcome any suggestions you might have.

*Sincerely,*

*John Faves*  
John Faves