

Panel probes for peace

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IN OTHER PARTS of the discussion, the panelists made the following assertions:

- Israel is not justified in occupying the West Bank and repressing the 1.5 million Palestinians who live there as cheap labor, said Abraham. Israel occupies the land because it wants the water under the West Bank and subjects Palestinians to economic colonialism.

- "It's illegal to drill a well, plant a fruit tree or go to school," he said. "Israeli soldiers beat people for singing songs (considered subversive) or wearing the PLO colors."

- Israel occupies the West Bank and other occupied territories as buffers against Arab neighbors who

have vowed to destroy the Jewish homeland, said Gad-Harf. It's a lesson learned many times, but most forcefully in 1967 and 1973 when Israel was invaded by Arab armies.

- The issue of a Palestinian state or homeland must be resolved by direct negotiations between elected representatives of the Palestinians and the Israelis, Gad-Harf emphasized.

- Peterson said he recalls when people, including Gad-Harf, use the phrase "missed opportunities" when referring to those occasions since 1948 when Arab nations might have — but didn't — negotiated a Palestinian state.

- When Israel was founded in 1948, numerous Palestinians lost their homes without compensation,

Peterson said. They did not negotiate for a homeland — and thus "missed opportunities" — because they were hurting and in shock, he said, "and still hoping their Arab neighbors would come to their aid. But they never did."

- Young Palestinians — fed up with the PLO and other pro-Arab groups for not being able to help them out of their squalor and misery — may turn to extremist groups unless Israel enters meaningful negotiations, said Peterson.

Peterson said he is concerned that young Palestinians in occupied territories will turn to extreme violence because of the squalor they live in and the frustrations they experience almost daily.

Three seats up on OCC board

Three Oakland Community College trustee terms expire on June 30, 1990. Two of the openings are for six-year terms ending June 30, 1996, the third is a four-year term ending on June 30, 1994.

Voting to fill the positions will take place on June 11, 1990, the date of the annual school election.

Trustees for the five-campus college are elected on a non-partisan at-large basis by voters living within the college district, an area that gen-

erally coincides with the boundaries of Oakland County. Board service is voluntary; trustees are not paid.

Prospective candidates must file nominating petitions containing the signatures of no fewer than 50, nor more than 200 registered and qualified voters of the Oakland Community College District with Anne Harrell, Administrative Secretary for the Board Election, on or before 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 24.

The petitions must be presented at

the college's George A. Bee Administration Center, 2481 Opdyke Road, Bloomfield Hills. In addition to the petitions, candidates must provide two copies of an Affidavit of Identity.

Nominating petitions and copies of the Affidavit of Identity form may be obtained through the college's communications office located at the Bee Center. For further information, call George Curtis, director of college communications at 540-1540.

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