

Alison Weir

Executive Director, If Americans Knew



Endorsements:

"Ms. Weir presents a powerful, well documented view of the Middle East today. She is intelligent, careful, and critical. American policy makers would benefit greatly from hearing her first-hand observations and attempting to answer the questions she poses. This is an intellectual, thought-provoking, and worthwhile presentation."

- **Thomas Campbell**
Former US Congressman (R-CA)
Dean of Haas School of Business,
University of California

"When the speech ended, Ms. Weir was met with thunderous applause, and across the room there was a widespread sense of satisfaction that someone was saying what needed to be said."

- *New York Times*

Biography:

Journalist Alison Weir is the executive director of "If Americans Knew," a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing Americans with information on topics of importance that are misrepresented or under-reported in the American media. She is also on the board of directors of the Council for the National Interest.

In February and March of 2001 Alison left her position as editor of *MarinScope* newspaper in Sausalito, California, to travel independently as a freelance reporter throughout Gaza and the West Bank. Upon her return she founded If Americans Knew. She continues to research the issue intensively, her library on the issue now includes over 100 books, and she recently returned from three months traveling through the West Bank, Israel, and the Golan Heights.

In March of 2004, Weir was inducted into honorary membership of Phi Alpha Literary Society, founded in 1845 at Illinois College. The award cited her as a: "Courageous journalist-lecturer on behalf of human rights. The first woman to receive an honorary membership in Phi Alpha history."



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Speaking Engagements & Publications:

Alison Weir's essays and articles have appeared in a number of books, magazines, and newspapers; among them *The New Intifada* (Verso), *Censored 2005* (Seven Stories Press), *The Encyclopedia on Israel-Palestine*, (upcoming) *The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, San Francisco *Bay View* newspaper, *CounterPunch*, and *The Link*.

Weir speaks widely throughout the country. Since early in 2001 she has provided more than 200 presentations, including two briefings on Capitol Hill, speeches at the Center for Policy Analysis on Palestine (one of which was broadcast nationally on C-Span) and at such universities and colleges as Harvard Law School, Columbia, Stanford, UC Berkeley, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Vassar, the Naval Postgraduate Institute, and others. She has spoken at the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, numerous Rotary Clubs, churches, libraries, and other civic and community venues.

In addition, she has been invited to give papers at international conferences, including lectures at the Asia Media Summit in Kuala Lumpur for three straight years. A top level British attendee termed her speech "the most brilliant of the entire conference."

If Americans Knew has completed seven in-depth statistical studies of US media coverage of Israel-Palestine, releasing reports on the *New York Times*, the Associated Press, the major primetime news broadcasts, and various other news media, research that is increasingly cited by analysts on Israel-Palestine.



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