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DAYTON, Ohio, June 5, 1969 --- Two University of Dayton professors, Dr. Gad Soffer, Assistant Professor of History, and Dr. Jack Boenninghofen, Assistant Professor of Languages (French), will go abroad this week for research in their academic fields. A third, Dr. John O'Donnell, Chairman, Department of School Administration, School of Education, will leave in August to attend the first International Congress on Mathematics Instruction in Lyon, France.

Dr. Soffer, who is going to the Middle East for the third straight summer, will study in Israel and Iran. His two-pronged research is entitled "Comparative Study of Civic Education Administered by the Military in Iran (Persia) and Israel." His research in education and civil government as it is affected by the military in the Middle East has become internationally known. His earlier studies involved Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

His 1969 project which is being funded by the University of Dayton's Human Relations and Research Council and the National Science Foundation will take him to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the British Institute of Persian Studies in Teheran, Iran.

In describing his coming research, Dr. Soffer says: "I'm going to evaluate and study the history of civic education administered by the military in Iran. There is a special military unit known as the literacy corps which combats the country's worst enemy that of 80 per cent illiteracy."

He will seek the application of the program to other countries with a similar problem and compare it to similar efforts in Israel. Upon his return to the United States he will publish papers on his work and also lecture on the project.

Dr. Soffer, who was born and raised in Israel, came to UD in 1966 and has degrees from Georgetown and American universities in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Boenninghofen will be accomplishing personal research on "Diderot's Literacy Criticism" in a number of libraries in Paris. He will stay in Paris from June 13 to September 2 preparing his papers and lectures principally at The Bibliotheque de l'Arsenal and The Bibliotheque Nationale.

In particular he has been commissioned by The French Review to prepare articles for publication later this year and early next. He eventually will write a book.

Dr. Boenninghofen, who has been with UD since 1967, has degrees from the Universities of Virginia, Yale and Syracuse.

Dr. O'Donnell, who has his three degrees from Penn State University, will attend the Congress at the University of Lyon from August 14 to August 20. The program is sponsored by the International Institute for Mathematics Instruction and is an effort to explore ideas in teacher training, research in teaching mathematics, and programs in primary mathematics.

Dr. O'Donnell, who previously taught at Duquesne University, has been active in new methods of teaching on elementary and secondary school level as well as preparing school administrators since he came to UD.