

SYRIA'S NIGHTMARE: DECADES IN MAKING, YEARS BEFORE WAKING



WEDNESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER
NOON
238 HRCB



Theodore H. Kattouf

PRESIDENT AND CEO, AMIDEAST

Theodore H. Kattouf, president and CEO of AMIDEAST since 2003, is a former U.S. ambassador to Syria (2001) and to the United Arab Emirates (1998). Kattouf had been a career Foreign Service officer since 1972. His Foreign Service assignments included deputy chief of mission in Damascus, Riyadh, Baghdad, and Sanaa; deputy director and subsequently director for office of Lebanon, Jordan, and Syrian Affairs. During earlier posts he was as a State Department mid-career fellow at Princeton University; worked as an international relations officer in the Near East Bureau; served as a Middle East analyst; attended the Foreign Service Arabic Language Program in Beirut and Tunis before being

assigned as a political officer to Damascus; and served in Kuwait as an economic and commercial officer. Kattouf received the Cobb Award for outstanding advocacy efforts on behalf of U.S. companies abroad, two Meritorious Honor Awards, four Senior Performance Awards, and one Presidential Honor Award. He was also named runner-up as DCM of the Year for 1996. Born in Pennsylvania, upon graduating from the Pennsylvania State University in 1968, he served for three and a half years in the U.S. Army infantry, attaining the rank of captain. Kattouf and his wife Jeannie (Ajay) are the parents of one daughter and three sons and the proud grandparents of four boys.