

# ANTHONY REYNOLDS GALLERY

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## PRESS RELEASE



WE ARE A FAIR PEOPLE. WE NEVER SPEAK WELL OF ONE ANOTHER

## AN EXHIBITION OF DOCUMENTS FROM THE ATLAS GROUP ARCHIVE

18 NOVEMBER – 22 DECEMBER 2005

In this exhibition, The Atlas Group displays two projects from the archive titled: *We Decided To Let Them Say "We Are Convinced" Twice*.

In the ground floor gallery is showing *It Was More Convincing This Way* (Marwan Hanna, 2001), Of the images documented here, Marwan Hanna says: "*In the summer of 1982, I stood along with others in a parking lot across from my mother's apartment in East Beirut, and watched the Israeli land, air and sea assault on West Beirut. The PLO along with their Lebanese and Syrian allies retaliated, as best they could. East Beirut welcomed the invasion, or so it seemed. West Beirut resisted it, or so it seemed. In 1982, I was thirteen, and wanted to get as close as possible to the events, or as close as my newly acquired telephoto lens permitted me that summer. Clearly not close enough. This past year, I came upon the negatives from that time, all scratched up and deteriorating. I decided to take a look, again.*"

On the first floor, we are showing the video *We Can Make Rain But No One Came to Ask* (The Atlas Group in collaboration with Walid Raad, Tony Chakar, Bilal Khbeiz, and with the support of Basar Girit, Aleksey Lukyanov, and Brad Samuels, 2004). On this document, the Atlas Group comments: "*This videotape documents a collaboration between Yussef Bitar, the Lebanese state's leading ammunitions expert and chief investigator of all car bomb detonations, and George Semerdjian, a respected and fearless photojournalist and videographer. The videotape focuses on diagrams, notes, videotapes and photographs produced by Bitar and Semerdjian about a detonation in the Furn Ech Chubak neighborhood of Beirut on 21 January 1986.*"

This London show complements a major exhibition of documents from the Atlas Group Archive, *Funny How Thin The Line Is*, which is currently at FACT, Liverpool.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND IMAGES PLEASE CONTACT COSTANZA MAZZONIS AT THE GALLERY**