



# *Celebrating 15 Years of Service to the Albanian American Community*

Updated March 17, 2008

## **AAWO PRESS RELEASE** Monday, March 17, 2008

Sudden explosions at an army base in Central Albania have caused at least 12 dead and 300 injured thus far. The number of victims is expected to rise.

The government of Albania is working hard to control the situation and assist the victims and the evacuated people.

Meanwhile, discussions to organize help efforts from the Diaspora community are already underway.

The Albanian-American Women Organization Motrat Qiriazi will make available a bank account for all those who want to offer monetary help. Our organization has experience with emergency assistance of this kind.

In coordination with the Albanian authorities in Tirana and with the Consul General of Albania in New York, Mr. Albert Jerazi, we intend all aid to go to the people of the Commune of Gërdec, mostly hit by this terrible accident.

Please make your tax-deductible checks to AAWO – Memo: Tragedy Fund, and mail to this address:

**AAWO  
Gerdec Tragedy Fund  
676A Ninth Avenue, Suite 425  
New York, NY 10036**

Bank Wiring Instructions are as follows:

Account Name: Albanian American Women's Organization Motrat Qiriazi, Inc. Tragedy Fund  
Routing # 021000089  
Account # 26596690  
Swift # for international wires: citius33  
Address of Bank: Citibank, NA, Branch 023  
1078 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10065, USA

Warm regards,

Dr. Anna Kohen  
AAWO President

AAWO – Motrat Qiriazi  
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AAWO is a non-for-profit organization, which works to lift the spirit, status and voice of Albanian women and girls so they can fully participate in all aspects of life; by becoming stronger and more resilient, in overcoming the years of war, government oppression and tradition that have pushed them down to the margins of society. AAWO hopes to strengthen the bonds between Albanian-American women & their sisters all over the world.