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The following is taken verbatim from the Jewish Agency's Internal Report on Arab Affairs (Palestine) No. 5/48, dated 1 February 1948.

1. SA'ID HADJI and TAJIQ TAMIMI have gone to see the Nafti once again. TAMIMI had wanted to do so for some time. Presumably his visit is intended primarily to discuss affairs concerning Jaffa. He is likely to outline the difficult position that obtains there and to ask for speedy and large-scale assistance. He will probably report on his difficulties with the growing faction around Halhal, as well as with the other members of the National Committee, etc. When with his fellow-members of the Arab Higher Executive in Jerusalem, he is expected to request that he be given wide powers, both in relation to Jaffa and to the A.H.E. in Jerusalem.
2. SA'ID HADJI was unexpectedly summoned to the Nafti. He is expected to discuss with the Nafti the fact that the new plans have not yet been fully implemented on account of the grave problems encountered. In this connection it should be noted that League spokesmen, as well as numerous Arab sources in Palestine, admit that matters are in a bad way, that no progress is being made with the implementation of the plans, and that the Arabs are suffering reverses. Nevertheless, all the sources concerned agree in stressing that another seven to fourteen days will see a decisive turning-point in the Arab campaign against the Jews. This will apparently be connected with the forthcoming session of the League Council, and evidently SA'ID HADJI will discuss with the Nafti the preparations and measures for coordination to be taken with reference to the meeting. Doubtless the question of the "Administration", the formation of which has been announced by the A.H.E., will also be the subject of further discussion because no move has been made with reference to this issue and it is encountering considerable difficulties in the Arab countries, in League circles and in Palestine itself.
3. Volunteers  
 The main subject discussed by SA'ID HADJI and the Nafti - which was largely responsible for the former's summons to Cairo - was apparently the question of the volunteers who have arrived in the Nablus-Jenin area, and also the question who is to command them. The district concerned refused to accede to Abd-al-Qadir HUSAYNI's demands on the occasion of his visit there a fortnight ago and also refused to accept his leadership. The local leaders, and especially the opposition elements, now regard the arrival of the volunteers as an accession of strength to themselves and as affording support to them in their stand against Abd-al-Qadir and the Nafti's plans. It appears that the volunteers insist that they are under the command of SA'ID HADJI and the League's Administration, and that they do not

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come under the authority of Abd-al-Qadir and the A.H.E. Reports so far unconfirmed state that the volunteers are seeking to gain the sympathies of the local population by bringing their own supplies and equipment with them and declaring that they will henceforth purchase their requirements in cash so as not to become a burden to the local villages. The controversy between the volunteers, who are backed by QANUKJI and the League's Military Committee, and Abd-al-Qadir HUSAYNI, who is backed by the A.H.E. and Mufti, is not yet so open or acute as to be incapable of resolution. GHURI and the Mufti may possibly work out a compromise formula whereby the volunteers will engage in actual military operations, which will be planned by QANUKJI and carried out at his discretion, while the Mufti's gangs will continue to engage in local harassing operations.

At all events, there does not seem for the time being to be any uniform opinion concerning the command and control of the volunteers, or the time, place and manner of the commencement of their operations. Presumably GHURI and the Mufti would like to solve this problem quickly, before the League Council meets.

The exact number of volunteers from Syria who have arrived in the Nablus-Jenin-Tubas area is not known, but various estimates place it at between 700 and 1,500. Some sources report that the commander of the volunteers is a Syrian, Safa Bey MUHAMMAD, who is under the authority of Fawzi QANUKJI, ~~member of the League's Military Committee.~~ (The Egyptian press says that the commander of this force is ~~Muhammad HUSAYNI~~, the Syrian representative on the League's Military Committee. This report, however, is somewhat dubious). There is no conclusive and precise information concerning the composition of the force, but most sources agree that somewhat over half of them are Palestinian who completed their training in the camp at QATANA (Syria), and that of the remainder most are Syrians with a sprinkling of Iraqis and Lebanese. It appears that the volunteers went to Tubas, where they remained for about two days, and were then divided up among the neighboring villages. Some of them are even said to have been stationed in the Gilboa villages of Bayt Qas and Faqqa'a. The command is reported to have been set up at Kafr Sir, between Tubas and Jenin. There are various opinions concerning the armament of the force. Most sources agree that the volunteers brought a small number of mortars and also some machine-guns and automatic weapons. Reports that they are in possession of heavier weapons have only come in from a few sources whose reliability has not been ascertained. There are also differing accounts of the pay the volunteers are receiving. One source, which appears reliable, states that it amounts to LS 35 (about LP 4) per month in addition to rations, but other estimates give a higher figure. All sources agree that the volunteers brought with them food and supplies sufficient to last them for several days, and that henceforth they will buy their requirements from the villagers, so as not to become a burden to them.

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