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Palostino

to avert intentions by the Mufti, directed against King Abdullah

The following information, dated the end of October, comes from an established Arab source

(1) Salah al din Boy al Abasi Palestinian Arab who was due to leave Cairo on October 31st to take up a post with the Arab Palestine Government at Gaza, disclosed in confidence that he and certain other Arabs whom he did not name, were planning to assassinate King Abdullah. *W. H. 1000*

(ii) They had intended to do so at the time of King Abdullah's orders to withdraw the Arab Legion from the Lydda-Ramleh area, but had postponed these earlier plans for fear of reprisals against the many Arab refugees in Transjordan. *Received 10/28/48*

2. The following comes from another source, who obtained his knowledge from Ahmad Hilmi's son:

(1) Late in September Mohammed Hilmi, son of Ahmad Hilmi Pasha, disclosed that the Mufti was organising a terrorist network consisting of individuals who passed as ordinary volunteers in the Hamadilin (local combatants). Mohammed was sure that Munir Abu Fadil (ex-Palestine Police Officer and leader of the Hamadilin in the Bethlehem district) was not aware of these terrorists in his ranks.

(ii) King Abdullah's supporters had been afraid to show their sympathy in public ever since they learnt of the Mufti's return to Palestine, which they regarded as a signal for a programme of assassinations. Among pro-Mufti circles in Amman, there has been much talk of terrorism against Abdullah.

3. The following was obtained through a source who saw the report in question and joined in the protest:

(1) Ajaaj Nuswehid, styling himself Secretary-General of the newly started Amman Palestine Congress, reported to King Abdullah early in October that the prerequisite of the Congress's success was that the Transjordan authorities should take definite steps to secure the protection of the organisers from terrorism by the Mufti's supporters. Nuswehid is even thinking of ending his activities as Secretary General for fear of reprisals by the Mufti.

(ii) A group of Palestine refugees in the Lebanon headed by Ahmad Khalil who came to Amman in early October to offer their support to King Abdullah, protested to the King when the news of their adherence was publicly broadcast, that this would expose them to intimidation, and worse, by the Mufti's followers.

4. The following comes from another source who saw the Arab Legion report:

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(1) Early in October the Arab Legion forwarded from Jerusalem a top secret report stating (among other details of the Mufti's activities in the Jerusalem area) that he had issued secret assassination orders and that Dr. Daoud Husseini had selected certain named followers for this purpose.