

CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET

From : [] Report Number : HIB-1819

Number of Pages : One Number of Enclosures : None

Report Made by : [] Approved by : []

Distribution: Orally to : No-one
By Copy to: Washington (3)
(1)
(2)

Subject : Mafii's Power Reported Declining

Source Cryptonym : [] References : As Indicated

SOURCE, OPERATIONAL DATA, AND COMMENTS:

MICROFILMED
FEB 21 1963
DOC. MICRO. SER.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
EATE 2008

SECRET

CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET

Subject : Mufti's Power Reported Declining Report Number : RLB-1819

Place Acquired : Beirut, Lebanon Date of Information : Current

Evaluation: B-3 Date Acquired : 30 January 1950

Source : [] Date of Report: 1 February 1950

1. Source states that Hadib HASAN has left the Grand Mufti's service and is now in Beirut. HASAN is an acquaintance of source, grew up near Ramallah, and had been a bodyguard of the Mufti for almost ten years. He told source that it is obvious to everyone close to the Mufti that his power is on the wane.
2. HASAN told source that, to some extent, the cause was personal. The Mufti has become abrupt and sharp with people and is irritable for little apparent cause.
3. The Mufti's four closest advisers now are:
 - Ishaq DAWISH (HUSAYNI)
 - Munif al-HUSAYNI
 - Hamdi al-HUSAYNI
 - Shaykh Hassan ABU-SA'UD
4. HASAN stated that the trick devised by the Mufti (Field Note: See RLB-1773) has shaken off more followers than the Mufti had anticipated. It also angered other people who up to that point had been completely loyal to him.
5. HASAN added that the Mufti's close advisers are divided among themselves and that more and more Communist pressure is being applied through the activities of Hamdi al-HUSAYNI.

Field Notes:

Paragraph 3: For Ishaq DAWISH, see RLB's-1472, 1784, etc.. For Munif al-HUSAYNI, see RLB's-1258, 1265, and 1275. For ABU-SA'UD, see JEX-4008, VLB-142, and RLB-12. We have a report from Footprint, dated 10 December 1947, which states that ABU-SA'UD was working closely with the Mufti, that he was considered the Mufti's number one henchman, that he was with the Mufti in Germany, that he left Beirut for Egypt on 9 December 1947, and that just prior to departure he spent half an hour extolling the merits of Germany and the German people to Surete personnel at the airport.

Paragraph 5: For Hamdi al-HUSAYNI, see RLB's-1752, 1784, etc..