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PRINCE TAL'AL PRAISES THE GRAND MUFTI

Source Cryptonym: []

References: as indicated

Source, Operational data, and Comments:

Source's informant for all of paragraphs 1 and 2 was Prince TALAL's chauffeur, who at one time worked for source. The chauffeur was also the informant for RLB-2495.

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Subject: Prince TAL'AL Praises
the Grand Mufti

Report No: HLB-2649

Date of Information: Current

Place Acquired: Beirut, Lebanon

Date Acquired: 5 June 51

Evaluation: B-3

Date of Report: 8 June 51

Source: []

1. Source has been told by an informant that Prince TAL'AL of Jordan, who has been in Beirut for medical attention since late May, has been outspoken to close friends in his praise of the Grand Mufti. He has been saying that the Mufti is the only Arab leader who will defy the British — which he would like to do himself, he says, but cannot because his father is preventing him from doing it.
2. The informant told source that Prince TAL'AL, before coming to Beirut, was compelled to promise his father not to contact the Grand Mufti, who was coming to Beirut at about the same time. As far as the informant knows, the prince has kept his promise; however, he has protested privately that there are many things he would like to discuss with the Mufti but cannot.
3. Source himself says that Prince TAL'AL's popularity in Jordan is increasing because of his known dislike of the British. This attitude finds a responsive chord among the large anti-British elements in the population.

Field Notes:

Paragraph L; Prince TAL'AL has been reported in HLB's-2146, 2365, 2495, and 2627. A previously unreported item from [] dated 28 May 1951 and evaluated as "B-3," states that Prince TAL'AL and GHUBB pasha have had a falling-out concerning a British ship which recently discharged arms for Israel at Aqaba.

Classification

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