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References:

Source, operational data, and comments:

[] was present at a meeting between Shaykh Jabbari and Glubb Pasha in Hebron on 27 December 1953 at which time Jabbari described the plan of the Islamic Conference group to facilitate the return of the Mufti to Arab Palestine.

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Subject: Reaction of King to Islamic Conference
Report No: NJA-534

Date of Information: First week December 1953

Place Acquired: Jerusalem

Date Acquired: 30 December 1953

Evaluation: C-3

Date of Report: 3 January 1954

Source: []

1. In addition to its announced decisions, the Political Committee¹ of the Islamic Conference also agreed to the following:
 - a. Object to the annexation of Arab Palestine by any country (i.e., Jordan);
 - b. Remove the Jordan National Guard, which is responsible for the Israeli frontier security, from the control of the Arab Legion and place it under the control of the inhabitants of West Jordan;
 - c. Name the Arab Higher Committee^(AHC) as the group responsible for negotiating concerning the future of Palestine.
2. Upon learning of the Political Committee's decisions as described in ~~Basrah~~, King Husayn interpreted it as an effort to invite Haj Amin al-Husayni to return to Jordan. King Husayn became angry and toyed with the idea of discharging Prime Minister Fawzi Mulqi.
3. The Prime Minister subsequently sent for Shaykh Muhammad Ali Sabarri², the mayor of Hebron, Shaykh Abd-al-Hamid as-Sayyih, and Shaykh 'Abdullah Ghoshah, and instructed them to have the Conference change its resolution welcoming the return of the Mufti and the A.H.C. to Palestine.

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3. Despite the efforts of this group, the resolutions were not changed.

Field Note:

1. The following were members of the Political Committee of the Islamic Conference:

Abd al-Monim Khalaf
Shaykh Abd-al-Hamid Sayah
'Imjad Zahawi
Sa'id Shammal
Muh'ayyin Kubihi
Sami Bash 'Allam
Mohammad Tahir an-Naqshabandi
Shaykh Abdullah Ghoshah
'Abd-al-Mo'ati Ali
Mohammad Umar an-Naqshabandi
'Abd-al-Rashid Latifi
Shaykh Raghib Abba Sa'ud
Shaykh Mohammad Ali Jabbarri
Arif al-Arif
Shaykh Assad al-'Imam
Shaykh Mohammad Hashim

Field Comments:

2. Shaykh Mohammad Ali Jabbarri pointed out that the Mufti made his trip to Damascus during the meetings of the Conference in order to be nearby in the event it should become possible for him to return. Jabbarri, an old opponent of the Mufti, described him as a Nero who is playing the violin while the Palestinians burn.
3. Jabbarri reported to Glubb Pasha that Kamal 'Ara'at, Member of Parliament from Jerusalem, enthusiastically approved of the three decisions noted in Para. 1 above. 'Ara'at, according to Jabbarri, hopes to be named Commander of the National Guard in the event the Guard is placed under the control of Palestine. 'Ara'at gained considerable fame among the Palestinians for his courageous fighting on the Bethlehem road in 1948.
4. During the Conference, while Kamal 'Ara'at's expectations were high, he met Minister of Interior Hazza Majalli and, alluding to an old Arab proverb, pointed out that "I am the owner of the horse," (This old Arab proverb means that the owner of the horse is the man with power.) Majalli stated, "Perhaps you are the owner of the horse but the horse (i.e., the Mufti) is not here."

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