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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Lebanon/Syria	REPORT NO.	CS-29673
SUBJECT	Lebanese Government Request that Ex-Mufti Leave Lebanon	DATE DISTR.	22 January 1954
DATE OF INFO.	6,7 December 1953	NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED	England, London (24 December 1953)	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: Through an official British channel; from a source described as regular and extremely well-placed, who is in constant and immediate contact with the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem. Appraisal of Content: 2.

- On 6 December 1953, Salah al-Din Abushi,¹ Private Secretary to the Lebanese Prime Minister, telephoned the offices of the Arab Higher Executive in Damascus and requested that a representative of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin al-Husayni,² who was at that time on a visit to Syria, should travel at once to Beirut to see 'Abdullah Yafi, the Lebanese Prime Minister.
- The ex-Mufti duly sent one of his supporters to Beirut on 7 December 1953, with instructions to remind Yafi of the promise made by the President of the Lebanese Republic at the end of November 1953, that Lebanon would make regular payments to the Beirut office of the Arab Higher Executive.
- In the meeting that took place in the Serail on 7 December 'Abdullah Yafi informed the ex-Mufti's representative that the Jordanian Government was concerned at the duration of Hajj Amin al-Husayni's stay in Lebanon. He further stated that Jordan had complained to the Lebanese Minister in Amman of the ex-Mufti's campaign aimed at depriving the Jordanian armed forces of their British commanders. Complaints had also been received from Iraq and from "foreigners" (sic).
- Yafi then told his visitor that he was entrusting him with a delicate mission - namely to request the ex-Mufti to shorten his stay in Lebanon. Yafi added that he wished to avoid any unpleasantness, however, and that it might be possible for the ex-Mufti's representative to avoid raising the subject if he could discover whether or not al-Husayni intended to return soon to Egypt.

British Comment. Despite Yafi's request that the matter should not be raised if the ex-Mufti intended to leave Lebanon shortly, there is no doubt that he will be fully informed of this interview by his supporter.

- Washington Comment. Possibly the name should be Abbassi or Ibish.
- Washington Comment. CS-27927 reported the ex-Mufti's activities in connection with Palestinian refugees.

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