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CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Lebanon

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT Christian Socialist Party

INFO [redacted]

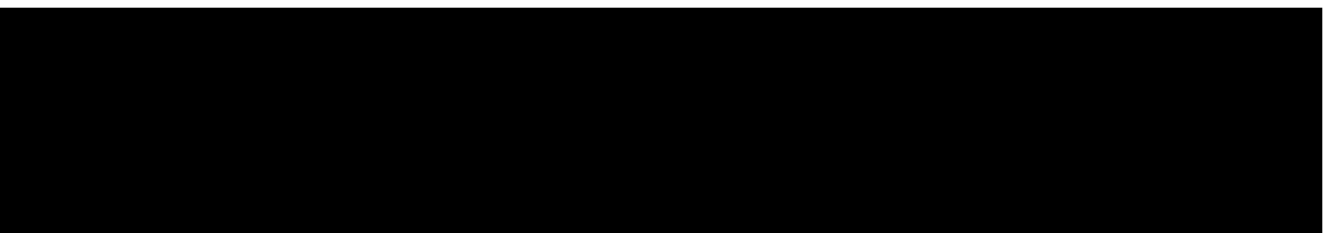
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DIST. 21 January 1947

PAGES 25X1A2g

ORIGIN 25X1X6

SUPPLEMENT [redacted]



1. A source with good contacts in French official circles reports that the Christian Socialist Party held its last meeting in the home of George Tabit, just before the departure of Ilyas Harfush (leader of the Party and owner of al-Hadith) for France.* The Party has not met since that date.
2. Three active members of the Party, As'ad Bustani (Deputy from Mt. Lebanon), Dr. Nasib Baz, and Yusuf Zikhya, told source that Harfush was empowered to get in touch with members of the Security Council in Paris. He is to inform the Council of the prevailing situation in Lebanon; request that the Christian status of the country be preserved; and ask that Lebanon be independent under UN supervision. He was also to make clear Lebanon's fear of the Arab League, and her complete opposition to the Greater Syria plan.
3. The same source states that word has been received from Harfush indicating that he had met high British, American, and French personalities who listened "sympathetically" to his statements. 25X1A2g
25X1A6a [redacted] Comment: [redacted] distributed on 30 October 1946, states that Harfush left for Paris at the request of Emile Edde on 4 August 1946.

4. A well-informed Lebanese Christian states that the Christian Socialist Party has never amounted to anything; that its handful of members are people without influence; and that, since the departure of Harfush, the party has been dormant. 25X1A2g

25X1A6a [redacted] Comment: [redacted] distributed 17 May 1946, reported the formation of a new party, the Hizb al-Masini al-Ishtiraki, or Christian Socialist Party, which incorporated all the Christian sects into a united Christian front.

document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the order of 15 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Chief of the United States. Review Date: 2003

[redacted] distributed 26 July 1946, stated that the government had refused a license to the Christian Socialist Party in an attempt to prevent Christian-Moslem antagonism in Lebanon.

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Document No. [redacted]
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
DECLASSIFIED TO: [redacted]
CLASS. AUTHORITY: [redacted]
DATE: [redacted]

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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

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