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SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY: Syria

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT: Opposition to Present Syrian Government
Expressed at Meeting of Arab National
Party in Aleppo

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. February 1947

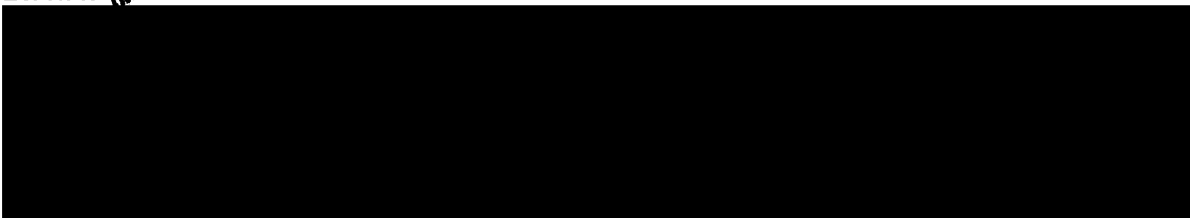
PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. On 12 December 1946 a meeting of the executive committee of the Arab National Party (al-Hizb al-Qawmi al-Arabi) took place in the home of Zafir al-Rifa'i (during the war reported as a German agent; ardent nationalist) in Aleppo. The following persons were present:

Fatih Jaznati....(known to have been an Axis partisan);
 Ahmad Karbar.....(formerly in concentration camp as enemy agent);
 Munir Ghannam.....(Ghanim?);
 Mahmud Hirawi;
 'Abd-al-Qafur Masuti..(reported to be a Russian propagandist);
 Najib Muyassir;
 Ahmad al-Rifa'i....(formerly reported by the Turks as enemy agent);
 Ahmad Rustum;
 'Abdallah Hanano.

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[REDACTED] Comment: A broadcast from Damascus on 4 January 1947 announced the formation of the Arab National Party.

2. The committee decided to support the amendment of the Syrian constitution to institute direct election of deputies for parliament (and not indirect election by electors, as at present).
3. The committee also favored a Greater Syria Plan for the union of Lebanon, Palestine and Syria, with the provision, however, that Greater Syria should be a republic, and not a monarchy.
4. The meeting ended with a violent speech by Zafir al-Rifa'i, in which he attacked the present Syrian Government and praised his own party and explained its hopes for the future.

Document No. 005

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1783

Date: 22 March 1978 By: 027

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