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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Levant States

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT Communists and the Palestine Question:  
Missions to Russia:  
New Head of Armenian Communists

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. [REDACTED]

25X1A6a

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SUPPLEMENT [REDACTED]

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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Communists and the Palestine Question; 1 January 1947

1. The Communist Parties of Syria and Lebanon decided to demonstrate against a partition plan for Palestine, should the British Government announce such a plan. This decision was said to have been reached, following a communication received by the two parties from the Arab Higher Committee in Palestine.

2. Nicola Shawi, Khalid Bakdash (Chairman of the Syrian Communist Party), Wasfi Banna, and Dr. Sami Alam al-Din of Tripoli, are reported to have been in touch with the Palestinian Arabs through 'Isaat Darwazah\* and Akram Zu'aytar (Palestinian Arab who is in Damascus). The Communist leaders have met Darwazah and Zu'aytar in the houses of Muhammad Ali Da'uq and Sami Sulh.

Comment: Probably Zubayr 'Izzat Darwazah, pro-Nazi refugee in Damascus, originally from Nablus, Palestine.

Russian-Financed Missions to Russia; 20 January 1947

3. The Communist Party has definitely accepted the offer which the Soviet Legation made to finance cultural missions and trips to Russia.

4. The first Lebanese mission will be composed of the following persons:

- Raif Khuri, leading intellectual Communist of Lebanon;
- Emily Faris Ibrahim, head of women's section of Friends of USSR in Beirut;
- Dr. George Hanna, see below, paragraph 6;
- Antun Tabit, of Society of Friends of USSR.

5. The Syrian delegation will be composed of the following persons:

- Dr. Khamil 'Ayyed, of Damscus;
- Dr. Jamil Saliba;
- Wasfi Banna, Editor of al-Tariq;
- Miss Maqbula Shala' or Miss Falaq Tarazi.

Note: Another source, believed reliable, reported that the Sanitized Government had not yet passed CIA-RDP82-00457R000300760003-6 and that the matter was still under discussion.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

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25X1X6 [REDACTED] 6. Dr. Hanna and the Communist Party are reported to have been reconciled after a short separation.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] reported, as of 4 December 1946, 25X1A2g that Dr. Hanna had been repudiated by the Communist Party at a meeting.

New Head of Armenian Communists in Lebanon; 20 January 1947

25X1X6 [REDACTED] 7. It has been reported that Artin Madoyan is no longer the head of the Armenian branch of the Lebanese Communist Party; he has gone to live in Syria.

25X1X6 [REDACTED] 8. The new head of this party is Gerabai Bashbazian. The Committee of the Armenian Communists, whose Chairman, Bashbazian, is also a member of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party, has two other members; Ohannes Aghabashian and Barut Bartizian.

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