

COUNTRY Syria/Lebanon/Palestine/Iraq  
SUBJECT Meetings between Representatives of  
Arab Communist Parties

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

1. The following representatives of the Central Committees of the Arab Communist Parties of Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, and Iraq attended three meetings at the Soviet Legation in Beirut, on 28 and 30 September, and 2 October:

Lebanon - Nicola Shawi and Farajallah Hilu (Washington Comment. Shawi is the President of the Lebanese Communist Party and Hilu is second in command.)

Syria - Khalid Baghdadash and Rashid 'Isa. (Washington Comment. Baghdadash is the President of the Syrian Communist Party and the Cominform representative for the Middle East. 'Isa is second in command of the Syrian Communist Party and a member of a committee to maintain liaison between the Syrian, Lebanese, and Iraqi Communist Parties.)

Iraq - 'Abd-al-Qadir Isma'il. (Washington Comment. Isma'il is a former Iraqi deputy and one of the leaders of the Communist Party in Iraq. He, also, is a member of the committee which maintains liaison between the Syrian, Lebanese, and Iraqi Communist Parties.)

Palestine - Emil Tuna and Georges Azar. (Washington Comment. Tuna is the head of the Arab League of National Liberation, the Arab Communist Party. On 14 August Tuna was reported to be in prison at Ha'albak. [redacted] stated that most of the important Communists at Ha'albak had been released. [redacted])

2. These men were brought to the meetings in the car of Isaac Isagulev, Charge d'Affaires of the Soviet Legation in Damascus, which has the Syrian license, No. 42.

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3. Officials from the Soviet Legation in Beirut who attended these meetings included Victor Khangulov, Charge d'Affaires; Fyodot Pisarenko, Cultural Attaché; Evgeni Podvigin, 2nd Secretary; and Alexander Sergeiev, Press Attaché and propagandist. Isaac Isagulov also attended the meetings.
4. The discussions which were held covered the following points:
  - a. The real causes of the Palestine war.
  - b. The Arab leaders' betrayal of Palestine.
  - c. The Arab catastrophe in Palestine.
  - d. Anglo-American projects in Palestine and in the rest of the Middle East.
  - e. The eventual formation of a Popular Army in Palestine.
  - f. Soviet Russia as the natural ally of the Arabs against the political colonizing of the Anglo-Americans.
5. At the end of the discussions it was resolved that action by the Communist Parties in the future should be guided by the principle of working for the withdrawal of all foreign armies from Palestine territory, and for the formation of a democratic Arab-Jewish Government. Tracts were distributed several days later, reporting on these discussions.
6. On 9 October leaders of the Communist Parties of Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Palestine, including Emil Tuma, met in an unspecified Lebanese village and decided to unify the Communist command in the Middle East. Khalid Baghdash and Nicola Shawi were appointed to head the unified parties.

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