INTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENC

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Director

United States Secret Service

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attention: Mr. S.J. Papich

FROM:

Deputy Director for Flens

SUBJECT:

Meeting of the Fund-Faising Committee for Palestine

Discuss Arab Commando Activities

Reference is made to

of 7 October 1968, Subject:

Annual Meeting of the Organization of Arab Students.

2. On 6 September 1968,

received, by

mail, an invitation from the Fund-Raising Committee for Palestine to attend a meeting to be held on 8 September at Earl Hall of Columbia University in New York City. The meeting was called to discuss the Palestinian Problem in general and "trab Commando Activities" in particular. The meeting was attended by about 65 people. The President of the Arab Student Committee of Columbia University, Ami ARMANAZI, introduced two representatives of AL-FATAH. ARMANAZI stated that these individuals had come to the United States at the invitation of the Organization of Arab Students (OAS) and had been speakers at the OAS annual conference in Ann Arbog in August 1968. ARMANAZI stated that the AL-FATAH representatives had been asked to address b3 per fbi the meeting on short notice and they were leaving the United States that same evening (8 September). The representatives from AL-FATAH were identi-

fied as Dr Zabayi at AlAMI and the Inches HALIT.

3. Khalid KHALIL's introductory res wike before the meeting principle he intended to review the history of the "Palestinian Problem", explain the evolution of the AL-FATAH organization, and leave it up to the imbs in the United States to decide what their role should be and what support they could give the Palestinian cause. In his speech KHALMI Capoke sortly, without emotion, but with bitter yours of stack on the trab countries, and their role in the problem of Palestine. He blamed today's problems and the loss of Palestinian land on the Arab governments and their misbending of the effairs of the Palestinian people. He wild the sudience that they should now have % faith only in the gally . He said that Palestinians were "mistrested / refugees" in other Arab countries will urged his audience to think of Pa

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and.

(b)(1)(b)(3)

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

as their homeland. KHALIL cited many cases of how Palestinian refugees were jailed, refused work permits, deported, beaten and abused by their neighboring Arab states and said Palestinians could only be masters in a land of their own.

- 4. KHALIL pointed out that the Arab governments had failed both militarily and politically in the evolution of the Palestinian situation, and had proved to be unable to regain the "lost land" and restore the Palestinians to their home. He told the audience he saw no hope in leaving the Palestine problem in the hands of the Arab governments, which were "themselves unstable". KHALIL made a clear distinction between the Arab governments and the Arab people. He said the Arab people understand and sympathize.
- 5. With reference to AL-FATAH, KHALIL said all members of the organimation, with a very few "symbolic" exceptions, were Palestinians. He said that AL-FATAH had been established in 1958. He said that until June 1967, the organization had worked "underground" and until after the June 1967 Arab-Israeli War AL-FATAH had been ineffective with many of its members either in jail or struggling with small scale operations. He stated that AL-PATAH had lacked the money, arms or support to carry out effective operations. He mentioned specific cases where Jordanian authorities had countered AL-FATAH efforts and killed a number of commandos. By June 1967, there were nearly 300 AL-FATAH members in Jordanian jails. KHALIL stated that his organization had benefited from the June War by obtaining large quantities of modern arms from the battlefield that had been left behind. He also said that now the Palestinians themselves had come to believe they must take the struggle into their own hands like the "Algerians". He stated the civilian population in Jordan was 100 percent behind the Arab commandes, and that the Jordanian army was also supporting them now. Financially, KHALIL indicated his organisation was receiving large contributions from all the Arab populations. Arab governments, and from Palestinian refugees working abroad.
- 6. KHALIL said there would come a time when AL-FATAH would be able to move more freely and operate at liberty in Jordan, whether the government liked it or not. He pointed out the fact that the commandos were very popular among the Jordanians, and made a remark indicating that the Jordanian momerchy might not last. In this connection, KHALIL indicated that at the present time AL-FATAH could see no urgency in encouraging the removal of the Jordanian momerchy. He told the audience the main concern of AL-FATAH was to win the popular support of the masses which will lead to increased support by the Arab governments. He emphasized, however, that AL-FATAH intended to inflict heavy losses on the Israelis and to undertake daring missions which would automatically bring approval and support by all Arabs.
- 7. KHALIL informed his audience that AL-FATAH had a small, effective intelligence system, which in some cases had been co-ordinating with various Arab governments. He did not elaborate, other than to state that a recent discovery of an Israeli operation was the result of such co-ordination. He



also indicated his organization screened all numbers and revealed to them little of the overall work. If a member was discovered to have betrayed the organization, he must face the punishment of a "firing squad". KHALIL stated several numbers had not their fate in this number after it had been proven that they had betrayed an operation to the enemy.

- 8. KHALIL told his sudience he did not went them to be emotional and do irrational things, but they must think about what they can do to help and devise their own methods of helping the Palestinian cause. He pointed out that there will be an AL-PATAH liaison office in New York City at 801 Second Avenue, c/o the Alestine Liberation Organisation.
- 9. KRALIL said his mission to the United States had been a "secret", but pointed out that the <u>Hew York Times</u>, in a dispatch from Cairo, had mentioned his trip. He was not happy about this publicity. Dr. Enhayr al-ALAMI did not speak during the meeting.
- KHALIL looked to be about 35 years of age, about 6 feet tall and weighed about 180 pounds. He presented himself as a Palestinian, but did not make mention of the place of his residence. He spoke Arabic with a cultured tone of voice indicating higher education. He was not emotional, but spoke with a cool bitterness and a deep bate of the history of the Palestinian problem. He seemed most concerned with publicining AL-FATAH activities and placing the issues in front of the Arab masses. Dr. ALAMI looked to be about 35 years of age. He is a professor at the American University in Beirut.
- 11. Any additional information on Euhayr al-ALAMI or Khalid KHALIL will be forwarded.

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)



