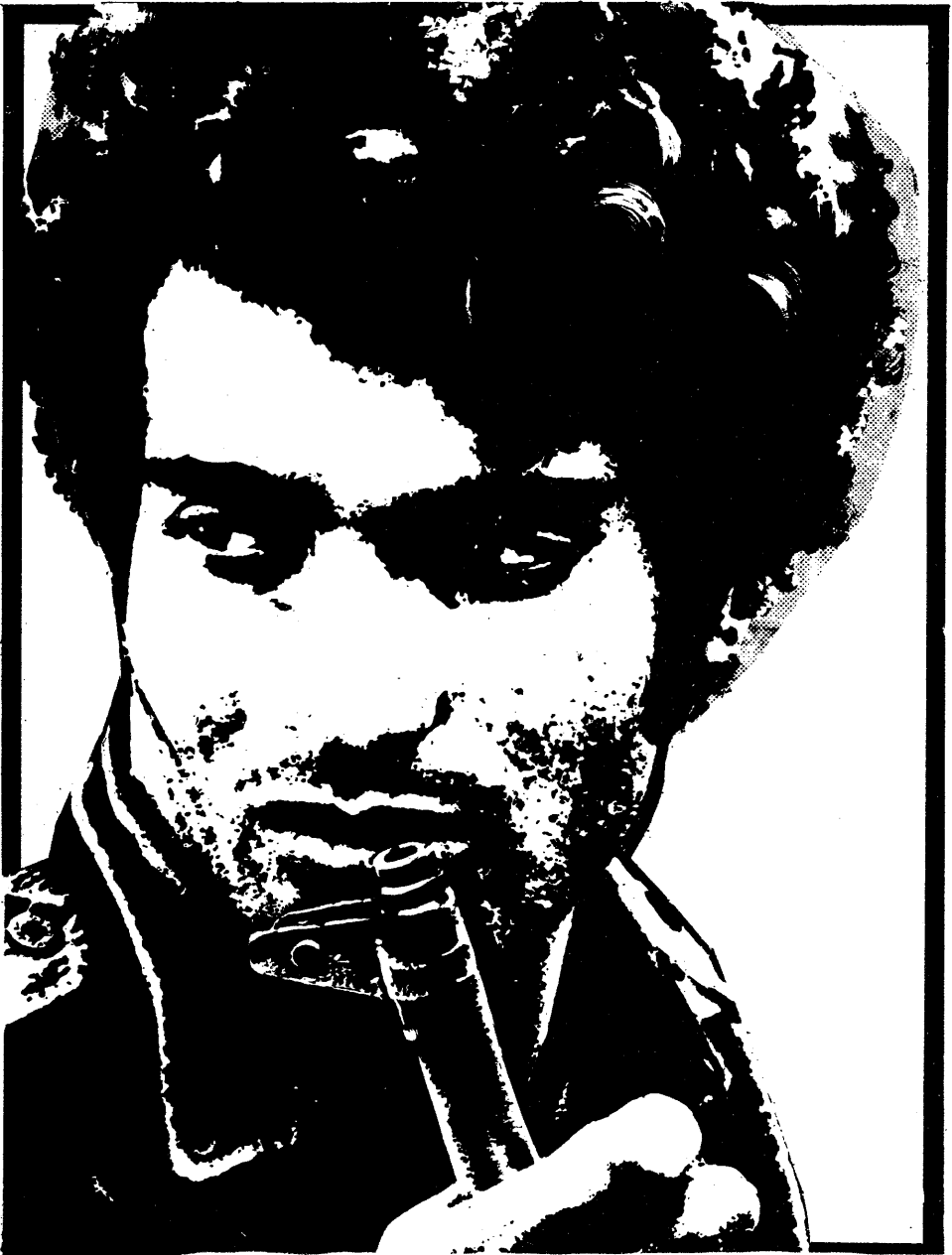


# FOR LEBANESE UNITY AND ARABISM

GEORGE HAQUI



George Haoui, Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Lebanese National Movement (LNM), who visited OSPAAAL headquarters at the head of a delegation composed of Radi Farhat and Imaam Raad, also Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee, and Fawatz Trabulsi, Anwart Fatayri and Nouhad Ourfaly, members of the LNM Executive Committee, gave a talk in which he explained the objectives of the LNM, its ties with the Palestinian resistance, the characteristics that it is acquiring in the present conditions of the struggle, its future plans and many other details about this political group.

**W**E are very pleased to be at the headquarters of the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAAL). We take this opportunity to send revolutionary greetings to all the world's fighters against imperialism, racism, Zionism — one of the worst forms of exploitation from which our people suffer — fascism and the local reaction. We feel that we are meeting here as one family, a family to which all the revolutionary fighters of the world belong.

The Lebanese National Movement (LNM) is a front composed of a number of progressive and independent parties and forces. Our delegation includes representatives and fighters from the Lebanese Progressive Socialists' Party, founded by the late Kamal Jumblatt; the Socialist BAAS Party; the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; the Independent Nasserist Party; the Lebanese Communist Action Organization; and the Lebanese Communist Party. A total of eight nationalist and progressive parties have united to engage in a single struggle, along with independent individuals rep-



resenting various groups of Lebanese public opinion. Of course, these parties, individuals and independent forces have ideological differences of opinion, which we recognize, even within the united front. The different approaches of

the parties and organizations make greater unity possible among the Lebanese people by bringing together very broad sectors in the LNM to confront the basic problems related to the national cause of Lebanon, the Arab struggle within the country, the struggle of the national liberation movements and the forces of progress and socialism throughout the world.

This shared battle that unites these progressive forces of Lebanon is proof that the common cause is much more important and compelling than ideological differences.

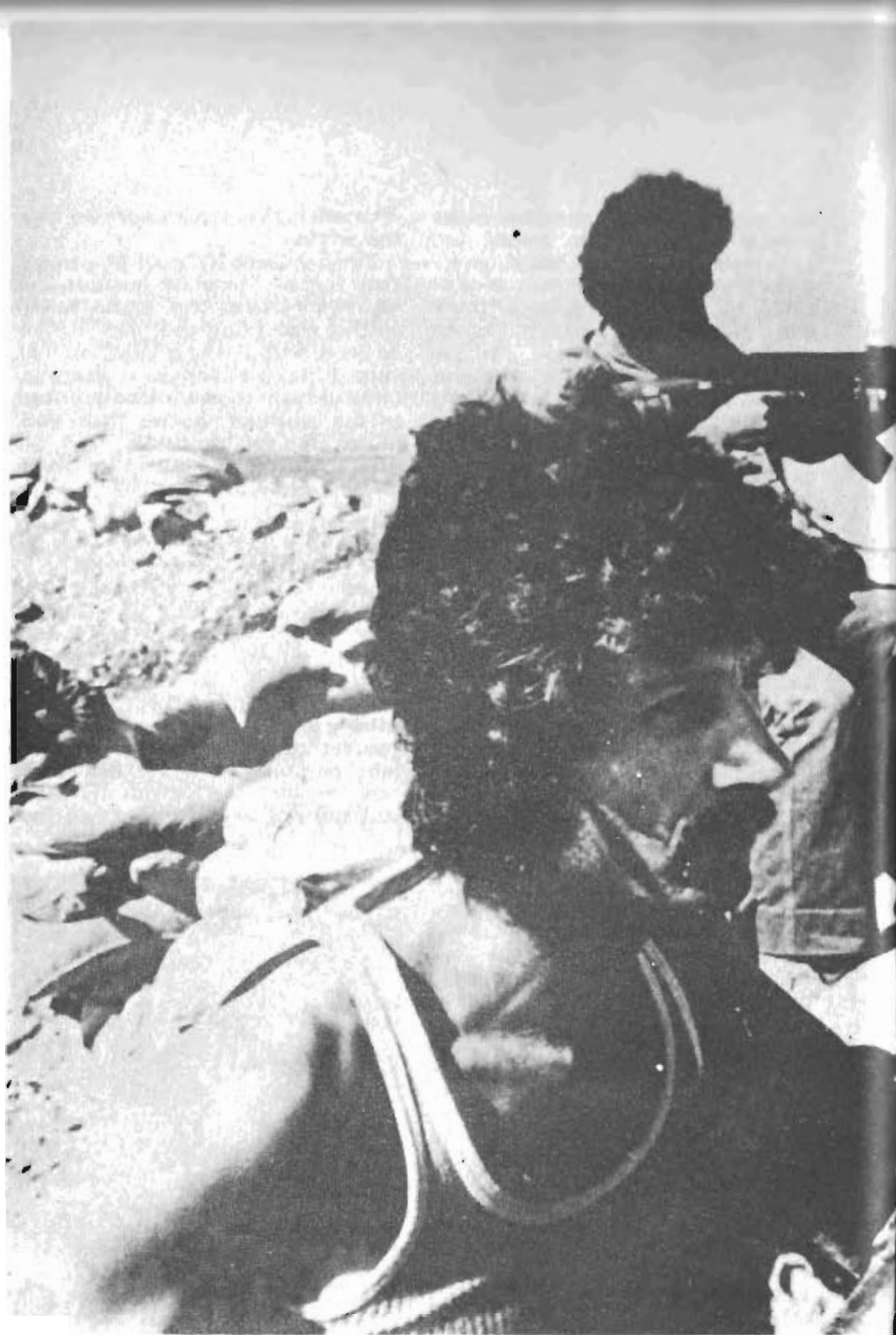
We would like to stress the highly significant role that Kamal Jumblatt, our great leader and national martyr, played in uniting Lebanese progressive forces. He was President of the Progressive Socialists' Party of Lebanon, of the Central Council of progressive parties and organizations and of the Lebanese Afro-Asian Committee of Solidarity. This Committee took part in the meeting that founded the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America. He was a vanguard fighter for the national liberation of the Arab peoples, unity in the Arab world and the Palestinian people's right to their homeland and their territory. He was also an internationalist combatant; one of the first to advocate non-alignment; and a firm fighter for the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America who worked zealously to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation among the progressive movements and forces of the world. He was also a great friend of the Cuban Revolution. This great man played a key role in the battle for Lebanon's national goals, the liberation of the Arab world and the

internationalist struggle throughout the world.

The Lebanese National Movement that Kamal Jumblatt founded has had a very hard trial since its top leader was murdered, but it has emerged with flying colors from that very difficult situation — stronger, more united and more firmly linked to the patriotic masses than ever before. It now has a wealth of political, military and mass experience in the revolutionary struggle.

Israel and its reactionary Arab lackeys in the area forced us into this bitter struggle four years ago, when the Sinai Agreement was being drawn up and the United States was advancing its liquidationist, sellout solution. The US plans entailed the elimination of all obstacles, using Lebanon as a battleground to achieve three objectives: to wipe out the Palestinian resistance — which had great freedom for carrying out its political and military activities in Leba-





non; to crush the Lebanese National Movement because of its strong ties to the Palestinian resistance; and to weaken Syria by placing that country in a situation that would force it to capitulate. For four years, our Lebanese people; their progressive, patriotic forces; and the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon have continued to confront one conspiracy after another, because the United States has adhered to its imperialist aims, using new approaches that have constantly endangered Lebanon.

The close connection between reactionary Lebanese forces inside the country and the Zionist State of Israel has been very evident in recent years: whenever the reaction's plans run into difficulties inside our country, Israel proceeds to attack the southern part of Lebanon. The reactionary occupation forces are engaged in acts of provocation against the LNM, the Palestinian resistance and the Arab Deterrent Force, whose job it is to consolidate order and security in Lebanon. As you can see, the situation is an explosive one, carefully planned as a part of imperialism's destabilizing efforts in the Middle East.

Following Anuar el-Sadat's degrading visit to Israel, the Zionist state felt strong enough to launch major attacks against southern Lebanon. During the preparatory stage of the traitorous Camp David agreements, the reaction's internal acts of provocation and Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon were repeated in a coordinated manner, for the purpose of increasing tension. Preparations of political and military actions inside Lebanon



mounted in the face of the complex bilateral talks that were held between Israel and Sadat under US auspices, but we expect an even more dangerous intensification after this treacherous agreement between Sadat and Israel is signed. With the signing of the agreement, imperialism's plans to push Egypt away from any confrontation with Israel and place it at the head of imperialism's sellout, puppet allies will be completed. Then it will move toward the northeast and try to impose a similarly traitorous solution. It will move against Lebanon in order to wipe out the **National Liberation Movement and the Palestinian resistance** and try to carry out its plan for creating a Zionist state in our country, a plan to Zionize Lebanon.

We Lebanese patriots place our struggle within this general frame-





work. We are waging a national liberation and a general Arab battle in Lebanon against Zionism's and imperialism's designs, against liquidationist and traitorous solutions to the problem of the Middle East, solutions that go against the Palestinian people's interests. Considering that our struggle is one of stimulus and strength for the forces that oppose the plans of imperialism and Zionism, we can also say that the triumph of our struggle in Lebanon depends on the success of the struggle that is being waged by the steadfastness and resistance forces in the Arab world. We attach great importance to the firm steps the Arab world has taken against the US, Zionist and Egyptian plans, against the Camp David agreements. We also consider the consolidation of the Palestinian resistance to be extremely impor-

tant, for it has shown great strength in spite of all the conspiracies against it. We are aware of the weight that the steadfastness front carries and hope that it will broaden and deepen its efforts so that its work will include the entire Arab world that stands against the traitorous agreements.

We also value the National Charter that was recently signed by Syria and Iraq, and we support all efforts aimed at unifying these two fraternal Arab regions. We consider this to be basic to our struggle against these traitorous leanings and to the development of the world Arab struggle in general. This is the provisional variant in the face of the loss of Egypt and its alignment with the enemy camp; it is the basis for strengthening our efforts to bring Egypt back into the ranks of the Arab countries, once it has freed itself from Sadat's regime.

Syria's and Iraq's moves are also helping to consolidate a northeastern front composed of these two Arab countries, the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese national forces. In making a positive evaluation of events, the Lebanese National Movement considers it necessary to raise the struggle to the necessary level by creating a solid front that includes all progressive forces in the Arab world and that can mobilize the potential that lies within the Arab masses so they can play their role. This front should be aimed at forming a firm, sincere alliance of all the progressive forces of our time and consolidating their links with the socialist camp — especially the Soviet Union — on solid, healthy bases. The Camp



David agreements have revealed the radical nature of the plan directed against our Arab nation's future, a plan to make it fall under the direct control of Zionism. Imperialism's designs are well known: they include the establishment of military alliances among the armies of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other reactionary regimes in the Arab west to confront the Arab people's national liberation movement; crush the Palestinian people's cause; oppose the national liberation movements in Asia and Africa; and confront the world forces of peace, progress and socialism. With these considerations in mind, we place great value on the Iranian people's movement that overthrew the Shah. Victory for the Iranian people is of singular importance, and we urge everyone to remain on the alert, for the battle will not be an easy one. From now on, it is going to be much more difficult.

Comrades and friends, our struggle in Lebanon is a part of the liberation struggle in the Arab region and the whole world. Therefore, any triumph the peoples achieve in terms of making social progress and consolidating their independence and liberation is the best stimulus to our Lebanese, Arab struggle. We assure you — and, through you, all the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America — of our solidarity and reiterate our pledge to continue our struggle to attain the following goals:

first, to guarantee Lebanon's territorial and demographic unity

second, to guarantee Lebanon's historic unity with its Arab homeland, which is confirmed daily through the Lebanese people's

sponsorship and support of the Palestinian people's struggles; the continuity of the struggle to liberate the part of our territory now occupied by the Zionists; and the creation and development of ever stronger ties with Syria, Iraq and other Arab peoples, not only in the present battle against our common enemy but also in the common destiny of our peoples; and

third, to guarantee the Lebanese people's right to free, democratic development based on equality among its sons and daughters.

These three aims — Lebanon's unity, its Arabism and its people's right to democratic development — are the main watchwords of the Lebanese National Movement. Through this role, we are trying to do our duty in the struggle against vacillating "solutions" and plans and in opposition to the conspiracies directed against our Arab nation.

In spite of our fervent desire to obtain a solution to the Lebanese crisis, the development of events confirms that this will not be possible within the near future. Imperialism, Zionism and other reactionary forces are trying to keep our people from attaining this goal, which is why we must engage in a long, hard struggle. This struggle will be multifaceted, including both the political aspect and armed struggle.

Today, we are more confident than ever of victory, because the unity of the progressive, patriotic national forces in our country is growing constantly stronger, as is our solidarity with the Palestinian resistance, and our cooperation with fraternal Syria is developing steadily. Moreover, we have great hopes for the National Charter between Syria and Iraq and what this document — because of its human and



material dimensions — can offer our cause, and we are more convinced than ever of the success of the struggle in the period of the liberating revolutions, in view of the clarifying example set us by the heroic people of Vietnam, the great meaning of the Cuban Revolution at the international level and the examples set by other peoples all over the world. It's difficult to mention all of them, but they are represented here.

The comrade members of my delegation and I reiterate our deep gratitude to the comrades who lead OSPAAAL, a detachment that is an inseparable part of the world struggle. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

---

**Rogelio González,**  
**representative of the Paraguayan**  
**Communist Party**

---

What is the Lebanese government's function with regard to the reactionary rightist forces, that act in connivance with Zionism, and with regard to the democratic forces?

---

**George Haoui**

---

Unfortunately, we must say that the regime in Lebanon plays an archreactionary role. The present President of Lebanon has had several opportunities to consolidate Lebanese unity and wipe out the focus of tension. Even though the Lebanese National Movement opposed his election at first, it later decided to support any desire the President might express to consolidate order within the country and preserve its unity. He also had the support of fraternal Syria and could call on more than 30 000 sol-

diers of the Arab Deterrent Force. In spite of this, he let all opportunities to solve the crisis go by. It is no exaggeration to say that, at present, he is the main obstacle to solving the Lebanese crisis. The President has shown no interest at all in solving the problem of the Israeli occupation in the south. Rather, he prefers to use the Israeli occupation in the south as a threat in handling the problem in the north.

As for the domestic situation, our country has seen the creation of the broadest front in its history. This front unites an absolute majority of the political forces and public opinion. In addition to the Lebanese National Movement and the Nationalist Front of Lebanon, there is the General Islamic Convention and antiseparatist, anticollaborationist Christian personalities such as Soleiman Franjeh, former President of the Lebanese Republic, whose son was killed by the rightist militias. Moreover, there is a Parliamentary majority, including the Speaker of the House, who holds positions that are different from those held by the President. Even the Prime Minister holds different positions. All these forces are ready to support any step that the President may take to guarantee order in Lebanon, to give it back its unity and to eliminate the Zionist occupation in the south. He, however, persists in protecting the pillars of the reaction inside the country; obstructs the work of the Arab Deterrent Force; and is proposing the constitution of a racist, reactionary army structured on religious lines. In this way, he is protecting the fascist forces — which,



in one part of Lebanon, have set up their own body, only waiting for a propitious moment for seizing all of our national territory.

This is why a strong pressure campaign is being waged against the President of the Republic as a last attempt to persuade him to change his position and respect the opinion of almost all the Arab world. If this campaign doesn't succeed, we will have to struggle to get a new President. This will be a basic issue.

---

**Tuffic el Faquiri,**  
**head of the Arabic Section of**  
**Radio Havana Cuba**

---

What influence have the most recent events in Iran had on the situation in the Middle East in general and the struggle against Zionism in particular?

---

**George Haoui**

---

The Shah's Iran wasn't just another link in the imperialist chain. It, like Israel, was a main axis for carrying out imperialism's plans in the area, the local gendarme which imperialism used for striking blows against the Arab national liberation movement and supporting Zionism. It constituted a basic support for the Arab reaction. It was a bulwark which imperialism tried to unite in a military pact with Israel and Sadat's Egypt.

This is why the fall of the Shah's lackey regime is so important to us, the Arab peoples. I don't think it's necessary to give many examples showing why this is so, but I would like to go into a few aspects.

First, I would like to say that imperialism will try to recover what it has lost. To do so, it will consolidate and strengthen Israel's role in the

area even more. Second, it will do everything it can to save Anuar el-Sadat's regime, pull it out of the whirlpool it is now in and keep Sadat from following the Shah. Third, it will try to strengthen the reaction in Saudi Arabia, a key area **on the Persian Gulf, to fill the vacuum** left by the toppling of the Shah. Fourth, with regard to the specific situation of Lebanon, imperialism and Israel will be much more cruel to us, in order to try to recover what they have lost through the Shah's fall.

Imperialism may also react in other parts of the world, such as with new acts of provocation against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and other peoples in order to maintain ever larger centers of tension. We are very worried by China's aggression against Vietnam, which we consider to be a threat to all the national liberation movements, to all other peace-loving forces and to world security.

But, in spite of all these actions by imperialism, our Arab area will doubtless see the rise of an overwhelming popular movement. The Iranian popular movement has set forth its position very clearly. It is opposed to Israel and has even offered Iran's potential to the Arab nation in its struggle to recover occupied Palestinian territory.

The great significance of the defeat of this regime, once considered the most powerful and invulnerable, must be pointed out. The opinion that imperialism can't save its agents is spreading throughout the world.

This will give a great boost to the people's movements, but we must be alert, because the struggle



in Iran is not over. Rather, it is just beginning and is growing constantly deeper, and there will be some Arab attempts to create an uprising apparently similar to the one in Iran and to use it for a completely different purpose than the Iranian popular movement. For example, in the name of religion

and under the cloak of a religious movement, some Arab movements may organize campaigns that appear to be in support of the Iranian popular movement but that are really used for another purpose. Nevertheless, the unity of the Arab progressive forces can crush whatever these forces try and can also mobilize this great potential, that will be on the rise now that the Shah's regime has been toppled ●