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## Comrade Habash: Hands Off Our Camps!

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*On May 24th, Dr. George Habash, General secretary of the PFLP, made a statement about the May 1985 Sabra-Shatila massacres. Below is a summary:*

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«There are claims that what is going on in Lebanon is the result of an individual incident that accidentally expanded, or of Arafat's doings, or of the return of Palestinian armed presence as in the past. All these are false claims. The real reason for the horrible events is the decision of the Amal leadership and its supporters to completely eliminate the Palestinians' armed role in Lebanon. The target of this bloody attack is the Palestinian national role pursued by the Salvation Front which aims to solidly confront the deviating line in the PLO. The Salvation Front has seriously evaluated the negative aspects of the pre-1982 stage in order to renew the Palestinian national role in Lebanon in a way which suits this stage of struggle.»

Comrade Habash stressed five important points:

«1. Our energies must be concentrated on confronting the dangers of deviation which would lead to the liquidation of our people's cause.

2. We will solve the contradictions between the anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist forces in a spirit of brotherhood which serves the joint struggle against the enemy.

3. We will continue to strengthen the Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian national alliance so that it may shoulder its tasks at this critical political turning point in the history of our Arab nation.

4. Relations among the components of this triangle of steadfastness should not be based on domination, or on forcibly disarming the Palestinian revolution.

5. The Palestinian national role should be effective everywhere there are Palestinian people, primarily in occupied Palestine, in Lebanon, Syria and elsewhere.»

In conclusion, Comrade Habash said, «We shout with our loudest voice: Hands off our people's camps! Stop the fighting and the undermining of cease-fires, in order to unify our ranks and confront the dangers threatening Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinian cause.»

Comrade Habash sent his regards to the Palestinian people, and those resisting in the camps of Beirut in particular: «I salute every fighter defending their gun. I call on our masses to hold on to their weapons and fight to defend our people and cause.» ●

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## PNSF Holds Amal Responsible

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### PNSF Press Release

On May 23rd, the Palestinian National Salvation Front leadership met to discuss the situation in the camps of Beirut. It reviewed its own efforts to stop the fighting in and around the camps. Its calls for a cease-fire and a joint Lebanese-Syrian-Palestinian meeting were rejected by the Amal movement. Moreover, Amal has violated all cease-fire agreements and continued to fire on the camps and enact massacres against the civilian population. In the light of this review, the PNSF decided to declare the following facts to the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

1. Amal claims that its attack on the camps developed from an individual incident. This is absolutely untrue, because the contacts that took place after the said incident could have contained any repercussions if that were the case.

2. We do not agree with Amal's claim that all that is happening in Lebanon is a result of a plan orchestrated by Arafat. We denounce Arafat's deviating, capitulationist line. The Palestinian masses in Lebanon have rejected Arafat's line and its proponents. They declared their support to the PNSF and its political line, and hosted the PNSF delegation in Sabra, Shatila and Bourj al Barajneh and Mar Elias camps.

3. The real explanation for Amal's attacks lies in its claim that it will not allow the Palestinian resistance movement to repeat the pre-1982 experience. Yet even this claim is not true. The PNSF presented a working-paper, on how to regulate Palestinian presence in Lebanon, to the different Lebanese forces, including the Amal movement and the Lebanese National Democratic Front. On May 20th, Amal's Politbureau

was supposed to respond to that paper. On the same day, Amal started its attacks on the camps.

Thus, the PNSF leadership can only see what is happening in Beirut as the implementation of a political decision on the part of the Amal movement. This decision serves only the enemy camp which previously failed to achieve its goals. We hold the Amal leadership responsible for the Palestinian and Lebanese blood shed. We demand that this leadership stop the massacres immediately. We demand that it order a cease-fire, withdraw all forces from around the camps, and enter into a dialogue to regulate our militant relations. The framework for such dialogue is a Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian one. The basis for cooperation should be agreed upon. ●

