

The Damascus Agreement

The Amal movement, the Lebanese National Democratic Front (LNDF) and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) agree to the following:

1. To reach a cease-fire, to stop violations, to end military presence in the conflict areas, to evacuate the wounded and to pursue humanitarian tasks in the Beirut camps.

2. The Amal forces and the Lebanese Army's Sixth Brigade shall withdraw to their previous positions as prior to the fighting.

3. The Sixth Brigade shall practice the normal duties which it was practicing prior to the latest incidents.

4. All detainees shall be released. Refugees shall return to their homes and camps. They will be enabled to reconstruct their homes, etc.

5. To conduct mass gatherings and reconciliation in order to put an end to the agitated atmosphere caused by the latest incidents.

6. The security of the Beirut camps is a part of Beirut's security. The security committee, which was formed during the Islamic meeting in Damascus, shall put forward one comprehensive security plan for Beirut, including the camps. The PNSF shall be consulted on this plan. The Internal Security Forces shall be the instrument for security in the camps. These forces shall open stations in each of the camps.

7. At the time when the various Lebanese factions agree to a plan or plans of security for greater Beirut or other Lebanese areas; or when the national unity government puts forward

a plan or plans of security, the Palestinian camps shall be dealt with accordingly, similar to the Lebanese areas. Any decisions or measures taken concerning the Lebanese shall be applied to the Palestinians.

8. Until a comprehensive or partial gathering of arms in Lebanon, in accordance with security plans agreed on by the different Lebanese factions, or decided by the national unity government, heavy and medium weapons shall be put outside the camps of Beirut under the supervision of the joint coordination committee.

9. The joint coordination committee shall be composed of two representatives from the Amal movement, the LNDF and the PNSF. A Syrian observer shall participate in the work of this committee. Its tasks shall be coordination of political, social and security matters. It shall also supervise the implementation of this agreement. It shall solve the ensuing and urgent problems. It shall supervise reconciliation and mass gatherings. It shall coordinate political and military positions, countering dangers and conspiracies threatening the unity of these forces, or being woven against the Lebanese patriotic position, the Palestinian cause or Syria.

10. The LNDF, Amal movement and PNSF, under the auspices of the Syrian leadership, shall put forward a program to consolidate the alliance and cooper-

ation among them. This program is to enhance the national struggle of these forces, to pursue the joint struggle by all means including armed struggle, and to support the Palestinian revolution in its struggle to liberate Palestine.

11. The Lebanese nationalist forces and the Palestinian nationalist forces reaffirm the importance of the alliance with Syria under the leadership of President Hafez al Assad, to confront the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plans. In this context, Syria is considered the main force in the Arab homeland confronting the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plans in the region.

12. The LNDF and the Amal movement consider the PNSF as the recognized national political leadership of the Palestinians in Lebanon. It is so until it is possible to return the PLO to the nationalist line. This is confirmed in the PNSF's political platform.

13. The LNDF and the Amal movement shall guarantee fraternal and decent treatment of the Palestinian brothers in Lebanon. They shall provide them with better living conditions until they are able to achieve their national goals and return to their homeland. This treatment shall be in compliance with what is applied in the Arab countries, for example, Syria.

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responsible for organizing Palestinian armed presence and specifying the location of this armed presence in the camps, in a manner which does not contradict with Lebanese security and which works for the benefit of the Palestinian revolution.

4. Allowing the Palestinians living in Lebanon to participate in the Palestinian revolution, as regulated by the Palestinian military police and in a form which does not contradict Lebanese dignity and security.

Why should the above points have been omitted from the 16th PNC's resolutions? Why are the attackers of the Damascus agreement sharpening their swords now, saying that it has cancelled the Cairo agreement, when they did not make the slightest move after the political declaration at the 16th PNC session?

The Damascus agreement cancels the Habib agreement

The second fact that we must make clear in response to accusations against the Damascus agreement, is that it de facto cancelled the Philip Habib agreement which was imposed on the Palestinian revolution during the siege of

Beirut. We would like to remind those who attack the Damascus agreement of nine of the points in the Philip Habib agreement:

1. «A cease-fire in place will be scrupulously observed by all in Lebanon.»

2. «All the PLO leadership, offices and combatants in Beirut will leave Lebanon peacefully...» with their safe withdrawal guaranteed.

3. «On their departure, PLO personnel will be allowed to carry with them one individual side weapon... The PLO will turn over to the Lebanese Armed Forces as gifts all remaining weaponry in their possession...»

4. It was not allowed to redeploy the PLO fighters in Beirut or other areas of Lebanon.

5. If there were to be political presence for the PLO in Lebanon, this should preferably not be in Beirut.

6. The deployment lines of the Israeli army will be reconsidered after reaching and implementing an agreement.

7. The Lebanese army is responsible for security in all of Beirut.

8. Other armed factions in West Beirut will hand over their