



The Guardians of the Cedars issued the following communiqué:

As the region edges closer to the brink of disaster, and events unfurl with wide-open outcomes, we see Lebanon moving faster to the abyss. The Taif Republic behaves as if it were on another planet, starting with the endless bickering at the top, the widespread corruption, and ending with its abject bankruptcy in the political, financial sectors and its social policy. Add to all this the repressive measures that the Taif Republic continues to impose on the Lebanese people, having truly becoming a republic of terror and a state in which the free national will or whatever little is left of it is utterly repressed.

One of the latest feats of this bankrupt republic is subjecting the judiciary, yet again, to political motives, and issuing an arrest warrant in absentia against General Michel Aoun for "acting and speaking without permission from the Lebanese government, disturbing the relations of Lebanon with a sisterly country, and disseminating false information..."

Everybody knows that the Syrian occupation is behind this form of political assassination, after having for a long time excelled at physical assassination to liquidate its political enemies. It seems that the occupier was not content with the slander campaign that the band of barking dogs in Lebanon carried out for it against the General, and so it ordered the Lebanese judiciary to prosecute him in the hope of silencing him, reduce his popularity among the Lebanese people, terrorize his Patriotic Movement, and forbid him from returning to Lebanon. The outcome, however, was in favor of General Aoun and against the occupation.

- No one really believes that General Aoun will cease demanding the lifting of Syrian hegemony from Lebanon. In fact, we are convinced that this legal prosecution will strengthen and reinforce the General's patriotic positions.
- No one believes that terrorizing the Aounist Movement will be so easy to do, when the Movement has had a long history of struggle, defiance, and confrontation of persecution of all kinds over many long years. The split between the Movement and its leader, concocted and desired by the occupation and its lackeys, is nothing but a joke and the wishful thinking of imbeciles.
- The popularity of General Aoun has in fact increased, because it is the simple truth that the greater the pressure on him, the greater his popularity.
- As to the issue of the return of the General and all the other free men to Lebanon, it is in reality coupled with the end of the occupation and the departure of its troops from Lebanon. No one in their right mind would ever consider returning before the last Syrian soldier has left Lebanese soil, unless, of course, they decide to return with their heads bowed down, which no free man would do.
- Lastly the subjection of the judiciary to the political whims of the rulers is evidence of both bankruptcy and naiveté, for this game has now been exposed all over the world and no one really goes for it anymore. Neither inside, nor outside, Lebanon.

For our part, we refuse any dialogue with this imbecile republic for we do not wish to lower our standards. But we pose the following questions to it for the sake of educating public opinion:

- Which of the two is the crime: calling for the liberation of one's country or not calling for it?
- Is the call to end occupation damaging to the relations with the "sister", and the call for the occupation to continue a counter-measure?
- And who ever said in the first place that Syria is a sister to Lebanon? In which political lexicon did the lackeys find this repugnant big lie, which they repeat day and night?
- Are there anywhere else on this planet two sovereign states that refer to each other as "brother" or "sister"? Isn't this the ultimate joke? Isn't it time to end this ongoing farce and this blatant insult to history and geography???

To General Aoun we say that the arrest warrant issued by the imbecile republic is a badge of honor on his chest and a witness in his favor. Many of us have received several of these badges over the past decade.

And to the imbecile, decaying and bankrupt republic we say: We despise you.

Lebanon, at your service,

Abu Arz,
November 1, 2003