

The Guardians of the Cedars
National Lebanese Movement



حراس الأرز
حركة القومية اللبنانية
القائد

The Commander

The Guardians of the Cedars issued the following communiqué:

We have always held the conviction that all the non-Lebanese armies present on our soil outside the framework of the United Nations are armies of occupation, irrespective of their identities or nationalities. And we have always demanded that these armies withdraw in compliance with UN resolution 520, which was passed a quarter of a century before UN resolution 1559.

Whereas the so-called Lebanese State has decreed that May 25, the date of the withdrawal of the Israeli Army from the South, be observed as a national holiday, and some held rallies and delivered speeches for the occasion, it is necessary to clarify the issue and shed light on it for the benefit of a public opinion still under an official cloud of deception and lies.

- 1) - Occupation, in the true meaning of the word, was inexistent in the border zone as is often said and repeated. Instead, occupation was in Beirut, the Mountain, the Bekaa, the North, and most of the South, since the Syrian occupation had a tight grip on the political decision-making and controlled all aspects of Lebanese life, from the economic, social, and financial, and on to politics, security and others.
- 2) - True liberation did not take place on May 25, 2000 as they claim, but on April 26, 2005, when the last Syrian soldier walked out across the border. This liberation will not be complete until all its political, military and security agents are also removed.
- 3) - The new State that will emerge from the Third Republic should designate March 14 as "National Unity Day" and April 26 as "Independence Day" instead of November 22.

Anything short of this is deception, lies and political charades.

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz
May 27, 2005