



The Guardians of the Cedars Party issued the following weekly communiqué:

Army Day is a very special occasion that the honorable Lebanese hold dearly in their hearts. They have always rallied around this esteemed national institution which they trust and behind which they stood at all the difficult moments it went through. The Lebanese consider the Army as their first and last safe harbor for the preservation of Lebanon.

Today, in the midst of all the political wrangling surrounding the role of the Army and its national standing, we reaffirm our loyalty to our Army and we salute each and every one of its members, from the top of hierarchy to the rank and file. We value the enormous sacrifices it made, and continues to make, generously on the altar of the sacred Lebanese cause. We look forward with great yearning to the day when the Army will be the sole guarantor of the country's sovereignty, security, independence and stability, and the first and last custodian of the protection and safeguard of the country, without any alternates, partners, intruders, or substitutes.

Lebanon, at your service

Abu Arz

August 4, 2008