



Leaks reveal Syria ordered killing of specific Lebanese figures

The Syrian regime in Damascus gave the green light for “liquidating” some Lebanese figures affiliated with particular religious sects, according to a new “leaked and highly-classified Syrian security document” revealed by Al-Arabiya television on Tuesday.

The leaked paper also showed how the Baath regime of Bashar al-Assad was seeking to sow strife in Lebanon.

In the aforementioned document, Syrian Major General Bassam Merhej—the director of the Syrian Presidential Security Office—issued to Brigadier General Hassan Abdel Rahman—the chief of the Syrian Special Operations Unit in Foreign Intelligence, an order to carry out a number of missions that were likely to destabilize Lebanon.

Based on the leaked communication manuscript, Merhej ordered that members from the intelligence and Operation Unit be sent to North Lebanon’s Tripoli to carry out orders “secretly.”

Merhej also ordered that the dispatched group stay in contact with “friends” in Lebanon, “but without revealing any details about the operations.”

The fourth and seventh orders in the document were the most striking, since they revealed that there was a Syrian decision to “liquidate” particular targets in Lebanon, including figures with specific religious affiliations.

Merhej clearly stated that the killings were for the purpose of turning the situation in Lebanon very tense; thus causing it to spin out of control.

Last May Lebanese army troops shot Sunni cleric Ahmad Abdel Wahed and his bodyguard when their convoy allegedly failed to stop at a checkpoint in North Lebanon.

His death sparked tension in many Lebanese areas where protesters blocked roads with burning tires.

Lebanon’s political scene is split between March 14 supporters of the Syrian opposition and the March 8 backers of the Syrian regime. A series of incidents linked to the conflict in Syria in the past year have sparked violence in Lebanon’s Tripoli.

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