

2018-02-12

Question-Answer

Syria-Lebanon: The Arab National Guard

Question

What information about The Arab National Guard is available?

Answer

The Arabic script for “The Arab National Guard” is “الحرس القومي العربي”, which according to available information is an offshoot of “The Arab National Youth” “الشباب القومي العربي”. They are a paramilitary group fighting side by side with regime forces in several areas in Syria. They are active in Lebanon as well, as their Press office is located there, as well as recruitment activities.

See below an article by Ayman Jawad Al-Tamimi, “*The Arab Nationalist Guard: A Pro-Assad Militia*”, January 2014. [Link](#)

"The Arab Nationalist Guard is a military resistance movement currently operating in the Syrian Arab Republic, established in April 2013 by a group of Arab Nationalist Youth from many Arab countries, currently including four battalions bearing the names of martyred leaders: Wadih Haddad, Haydar al-Amali, Mohamed Brahmi, and Jules Jammal. In total there are 50 resisting Arab battalions."

"The group's ideology, as can be inferred from the name, falls in line with traditional pan-Arab sentiments, with notions of Arab unity and anti-imperialism: "The Arab Nationalist Guard espouses Arab nationalist ideals, believing in the existence of a single Arab ummah, and the necessity of liberating and uniting it in a single political entity gathering all Arabs away from any sectarian, ethnic, or religious extremism; and thus is the necessity of confronting Zionism and colonialist trends that threaten the Arab nation with even more division than the current partition, exploitation of its resources and colonization."

“The Arab Nationalist Guard maintains links with the activist networks- by the name "Arab Nationalist Youth"- from which it draws recruits in a number of locations. Some of the more prominent places where Arab Nationalist Youth activity can be found include Sidon in Lebanon, Gaza and Egypt.”

“According to an Arab Nationalist Youth activist and subsequent fighter for the Arab Nationalist Guard, alternating his time between Sidon and Damascus, the Arab Nationalist Guard's membership includes Arab nationalists from a variety of countries, including Egypt and Iraq.”

Al Masdar News, “*Syrian Army’s order of battle of Harasta operation in east Damascus revealed*”, 08-01-2018. [Link](#)

“On Monday, pro-government sources reported the Syrian Army’s current order of battle for its Harasta counter-offensive operation in eastern Damascus.

The sheer number of Syrian Army and allied paramilitary formations involved justifies reports made earlier on in the week of a massive build-up of pro-government forces in Harasta.

The formations in question have been identified as follows:

[...]

Arab National Guard (multinational pro-government paramilitary group);

[...]

Arabic Sources

It is imperative to note that the below translation is not considered an official translation.

Syrian Reporter blog, *Arab Guard Militia, Comprehensive File, Part 1, (Definition-Armament-Activities)*, 21 December 2014. [Link](#)

“Arab National Guard Militia is considered the military wing for Arab nationalists “The Nasserite thought”. The militia came into being during the General Nasserite Conference, which was held in Tunisia in 7th September 2012. It was held of three days and hosted by Al Sha’b Movemen (حركة الشعب) t and the Association of Al Wahdawyeen Al Nasreen (جمعية الوحدويين الناصريين). Nationalists from several Arab countries attended, the old generation and the young generation.

Right after the conference the work started to form the military battalions of the militias in Lebanon, and precisely in the southern city of Sidon (صيدا), with support and coordination from the Lebanese Hezbollah militias.

The National Arab Guard militia were mainly split into four combat battalions:

Haider Al Amely Battalion, who is Hussein As'ad Hamoud (حسين اسعد حمود) Lebanese from Kafer Malki town in the south and one of the leaders of Palestine Liberation Front (PFLP) and a leader in the Arab Nationalist Movement in the 1970s. He is also a founding member of the Arab National Forum, he died in 2007.

Wadee'h Haddad (وديع حداد) Battalion, a Palestinian from the city of Safad, a founding member of PFLP and prior to that The Arab National Movement. He was killed in Germany in 1978.

Mohammed Al Ibrahimy (محمد الابراهيمي) Battalion "Director General of Al Sha'b Movement in Tunisia, and before that one of the founding members of Al Wahdaweoun Al Naseroun Movement in 2005. Before he was killed in Tunisia in 2013, he established The Popular Front in Tunisia.

Jol Jammal (جول جمال) Battalion, a Syrian Navy Officer was martyred in a well-known Navy operation during the Suez Canal war in 1956.

The militia started its combat operations in Syria in early 2013 and participated in fights with the Assad forces and several Shiite militias in several areas, such as, Qusair in rif Homs and Yabroud battle in Qalamoun in rif Damascus and in southern Damascus areas, the battle of Sbeneh and Hajeerah, and the battles in Jobar neighbourhood, eastern Ghouta, Al Mleeha, and western Ghouta, Darayah, Danoon, Mo'adameyah and in the battles of rif Dar'aa and Qunayterah.

The Arab National Guard militia is composed of several Arab nationalities, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Yemen, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan and Iraq. There are several female fighters among the militias who were recruited from Palestinian camps in Syria and Lebanon.

The Arab National Guard militias, like other militias fighting alongside Assad forces, is well armed. In addition to light and medium machine guns, they are equipped with short range land to land missile launchers, known in Syria as "Borkan missiles". They used them to shell several areas in Damascus and its surroundings, such as, Meliha, Jobar, Barzeh. And numerous units of mortars from different ranges, 60 mm to 120 mm. As well as several armoured vehicles equipped with anti-jets machine guns, 14.5 mm and 23 mm, and several types of anti-tanks weapons."

Syrian Reporter blog, *The Arab National Guard Militia, Comprehensive File, Part 2, (Leaders and Fighters)*, 26 December 2014. [Link](#)

As'ad Hussein Hamoud (اسعد حسين حمود), known as (Thu Al Faqar Al Amely) (ذو الفقار العاملي), head of the Militia and comes from town Kafr Malki in south Lebanon, and the son of Hussein As'ad Hamoud, known as (Haider Al Amely) (حيدر العاملي). He is the General Coordinator of (The Arab National Youth) organisation in Lebanon and one of the founders of the Arab National Association.

As'ad Hamoud have strong links to Hezbollah in Lebanon and they provide support and protection for him. He is linked directly with Wafeeq Saffa, head of security for the Lebanese Hezbollah. As well as he is linked to several Lebanese personalities loyal to Assad regime in Lebanon, such as "Sheikh Maher Hamoud, former Brigadier General Mostafa Hamdan, former Major General Jameel Al Sayed, head of Nasserite Popular Faction Osama Sa'ed (Abo Ma'roof). He also have strong links to leaders of Palestinian factions, among them PFLP, Islamic Jihad Movement and Al Nasser Brigades in Gaza.

He constantly moves between, Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia and Palestine. Recently, one of the Lebanese security branches, (Sho'bat Al Ma'loumat) (شعبة المعلومات), issued an arrest warrant for Ass'ad Hamoud and his brother Zayd Hamoud, one of the leaders of the Arab National Guard militias. According to leaked information the arrest warrant was issued due to their participation to form fighting militias in Syria. The reply came from leader of the Militias, Ass'ad Hamoud (Thu Al Faqar Al Amely) challenging the Lebanese authorities and its security apparatus that he turn their nights into daylights "an indication from him that he is ready for military confrontation". He stated on his social media page that the fight is under the banner of Dr. Bashar Hafez Al Assad.

Leader Mohammad Al-Ammari (محمد العماري), necknamed "The General", a Tunisian national and considered one of the leaders of the Arab National Guard, after Ass'ad, and he has strong contacts with the most leftist and Nasserite movements in the area. He is the student of Mohamad Al Ibrahim, the founder of The Tunisian Popular Front and Wahdaween Al Nassereen. He constantly moves between Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza, Egypt and participated in several nationalist and leftist meetings and conferences in Egypt and Palestine and considered to be one of the founders of the Arab National Youth Movement and founder of the Arab National Guard Militia.

Orient TV and News network, [Syrian opposition network], *Tunisians killing Syrians in the Arab National Guard militias*, 01-07-2017. [Link](#)

“The political leader of the Arab National Guard in Aleppo “Basel Al Kharaat” “باسل الخراط” stated that Tunisian youth are fighting to “combat terrorists” are among the fighters of the Arab National Guard, according to his statements. The only support he gets is from Assad regime, and reliable sources indicates that the militia is supported and financed from the Lebanese Hezbollah leaders. The sources adds that the Brigade Press Office is located in Lebanon and persons from the same party participate in running the office.”

تونسيون يقتلون السوريين في ميليشيا الحرس القومي العربي وأفاد المسؤول السياسي للحرس القومي العربي بحلب "باسل خراط"، أن شبابا تونسيين يخوضون معركة "مكافحة الإرهاب" ضمن مقاتلي الحرس القومي العربي في سوريا"، بحسب تعبيره.
والدعم الوحيد الذي يتلقاه هو من نظام الأسد، تشير مصادر مطلعة بأن الميليشيا تأخذ دعمها وتمويلها من قيادات في حزب الله اللبناني.
وتضيف المصادر أن مكتب اللواء الإعلامي موجود في لبنان وبشارك في إدارته شخصيات من الحزب نفسه

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

Sources

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