

SECRETDEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Biographic Informational-SAYYID, Muhammad FahmiEGYPT

Muhammad Fahmi al-Sayyid appears to be another of that body of advisers and aides to President 'Abd al-Nasir whose members have gradually come into some prominence after a period of working behind the scenes. There is virtually no information available on al-Sayyid before the elections for National Assembly in July 1957. At that time he was described as an "Aide" to Nasir; and it was reported that he was married to a sister of 'Abd al-Nasir's wife. Elected to the Assembly, al-Sayyid is now described as Legal Advisor to the President. He was a member of Egypt's delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union meetings in London in September 1957, visited Portugal in October 1957, and was named a member of Egypt's Committee for the Preparatory Meeting for the Asian-African Solidarity Conference. A press report of October 19, 1957 stated that al-Sayyid would "prepare the constitution" for Egypt's Asian-African Solidarity Committee.

In late June 1957, a U.S. official returning from Cairo stated that Nasir's Legal Advisor had considerable influence by virtue of his control over Nasir's appointments; the U.S. official was unable to recall the name of the adviser but it is possible that he referred to al-Sayyid.

IRC:BI:VHMacLean:mh

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