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3. Source states that Archimandrite Antun Malik is a Communist sympathizer. Although this fact was known to Mgr. Abu-Rujayli, then Metropolitan of Tyre, Sidon and Dependencies, he did nothing about the activities of Malik. However, Mgr. Abu-Rujayli's successor, Mgr. Bulus Khuri, has warned Malik against continuing his pro-Soviet propaganda, although Malik denied having engaged in such activity. Informed by Malik of Mgr. Khuri's warning, Mgr. Karam told Malik to move to Beit Meri in the Mt. Lebanon diocese. However, since most of the Greek Orthodox in Beit Meri are members of the anti-Communist al-Hizb al-Qawmi al-Suri, they refused to accept Malik as their priest.

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4. Two Russian priests have replaced Archimandrite Simeon Nikitin (who is now in Moscow), assuming his religious and other functions. Presumably the job of liaison between the Patriarchate of Moscow and the Patriarchate of Antioch.) These priests are the Archimandrite Ambrosius, a former White Russian from Jerusalem, where, according to source, he had no priestly functions and a rather shabby reputation, and Father Isaiah, who has been the Superior of the Monastery at 'Ain Karam ever since the Israelis have occupied the area. The Monastery formerly did not recognize the authority of Moscow. Father Isaiah served as Vice-President of the Soviet section of the Association of Slavs of Palestine in 1946-7.

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Comment.

Comment. An article in the Palestine Post, dated 6 December 1946, stated "In the... Arab village of Ain Karam, southwest of Jerusalem, ... Russian Orthodox Church dignitaries yesterday toasted the Army of Israel 'who treated us like brothers and by whose splendid assistance we were permitted to continue our religious work here'. The occasion was the installation of Archimandrite Leonide and his deputy, Father Asaya, in the Pravoslav Church, the first Soviet ecclesiastics to take office in Israel territory. In effect their arrival here extends the authority of the Russian Orthodox Church to this area. Formerly the Pravoslav Church had no ties with the Patriarchate in Moscow."

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5. Two pro-Soviet Orthodox churchmen are:

Father Mikhail Milikin, a former White Russian who is now a Soviet citizen, and who used to live in Istanbul. He is a close friend of such prominent Communists as Dr. George Hanna and Emily Faris Ibrahim. Father Milikin has been visiting Mgr. Karam and Mgr. Jahha.

Father Bychkov, who has a French passport, came to Beirut from Palestine. His brother was Major Bychkov of the French Army, who was a delegate of the High Commissioner in Sidon and who was killed in World War II.

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6. Other pro-Soviet Orthodox Churchmen are:

Rev. Hayqali, the parish priest of Sidon

Archimandrite Theodosios of Tabgharin, Mt. Lebanon

Father Ghuan, the parish priest of Shuwayr

Father Ilyas Khuri, head of Mar Elias Shuwayya Convent at Duhur al-Shuwayr

Father Tanios Aramuni of Furn al-Shibbak, Mt. Lebanon.

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