

Informant Mrs. Adeby Coury Sex F Age 72 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Orthodox-R. Catholic Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 12
Interviewer Richard Coury City Cairo, Illinois Date May 24, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

III/A
/3

She didn't know much about the Balfour declaration (in the 1920's). Asked if she knew about the Arab independence movement, she replied that she knew about Lebanon becoming independent. She heard of the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations but didn't understand their details. She doesn't know about the Syrian rebellion of 1925-26 against the French. "They gained their (Lebanese) independence I think it was in 19- I forgot what year and Lebanon became a free state". "Lebanon and Syria were one country"; then they divided under the French mandate; when the French gave them their independence, Lebanon became an independent state and Syria was another independent state".

Informant Rose Canty Sex F Age 74 Interview Schedule Code VIII / 2 / f
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 1
Interviewer Alix Naff City Peoria, Ill. Date July 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

Her parents followed the politics of the homeland.

Informant Najem and Bahia Basheer Sex M & F Age 84 & 64 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Lebanon Immigrant Age 17 & 24
Interviewer Alix Naff City Richmond, Va. Date Sept. 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIB1 He read Arabic newspapers - Al Bayan and Al Huda - and English newspapers which printed news about the homeland. He preferred Al Bayan to the others.

IIB1 He read about the Druze revolution in Lebanon but the war didn't bother him.

vi/10

viii / 2 / f

Informant Aliya Ogdie Hassan

Sex F Age 70

Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f

Religious Sect Sunni Muslim

Country of Origin U.S. born

Immigrant Age N/A

Interviewer Grant Farr

City Dearborn, Mich.

Date June 2, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIA2

- Her father kept up on international politics both in the homeland and around the world. He was very interested in the Russian revolution. She remembers that her father cried when the French visited the tomb of Salahadin. He would say "how dare they, they never had a general like Salahadin."

Her father thought in the 1920's that anyone with any bad thought was a communist. He called the IWW the "I won't work" Union. He was a republican.

Informant Mr. Nafe Katter Sex M Age 82 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Druze Country of Origin Mt. Lebanon Immigrant Age 22
Interviewer Alix Naff City Saginaw, Michigan Date June 13, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/3

The French in Lebanon tried to "change the language". They were trying to force the public to use the people (paper?) currency instead of gold". That was a very "unhappy" situation.

I/B/3

Informant believes that religion had nothing to do with wars in Lebanon. It was "world politics" that created problems.

Informant Mahomed Wazney Sex M Age 90 Interview Schedule Code VIII / 2 / 4
Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Lebanon (Syria) Immigrant Age 25
Interviewer Alix Naff City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 3, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

IIB1 When asked about his reaction about the French taking over the Lebanon, he said, "I don't mind the French taking over the Lebanon because anybody can do better than the Turks can."

What the French did worst was the constitution that concluded that the president had to be a Maronite, and "the general has to be a Maronite, and the Muslim Shii's who are the majority, have only vice president, and the Sunnis have the prime minister. And other religious sects "each one get a head."

IIB1 He stated that he read newspapers that contained news about the homeland during the 1920's and 1930's.

Conversation with:

Informant Zenib Sabaugh Sex F Age 75 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
 Religious Sect Shi'i Muslim Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 17
 Interviewer Alixa Naff City Dearborn, Mich. Date May 30, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

She praises the French for their improvements to her country, such as electrification, and making the country safer and more secure. She does not seem to be concerned with events in the homeland today. She is not even concerned with the fate of Lebanon because all of her family are here and have been for some time. For all intents and purposes, ties with the homeland no longer exist. They get some letters but nothing of significance. She is fully aware of current events in the Arab world and has opinions on it. She said that there were Jewish fruit peddlers in her village with whom they got along very well. But the U.S. connection with Israel spoiled that relationship. Until the French came the Muslims used to protect the Christians from harm during uprisings or local conflagrations aimed at Christians. Christians and Muslims may have lived in separate quarters but they were friendly. She does not know if the Turks treated Christians in the same way that they treated Muslims.

Informant Mr. Mahomed Forge Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 26
Interviewer Grant Farr City Dearborn, Michigan Date June 6, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/A/1

Regarding politics, the informant didn't know what was going on in the 1920's and 1930's.

VIII/2/f

VIII/2/g

IX/2/b

IX/2/c

Informant Shaikh Kalil Bazzy Sex M Age 86 Interview Schedule Code vm/a/f
Religious Sect Shi'i Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 9
Interviewer Alixa Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date June 9, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

Informant says they used to be extremely concerned with events in the homeland between the wars. He was president of a delegation for a party (for?) New Syria. France wanted to rule Syria and Syria is for Syrians and Iraq is for Iraqis. This was during WWII. He was president of the delegation in the U.S.

~~VIII~~ k/f

~~IX~~ h/c

Informant Mr. Jim (Najib) Azar Sex M Age 65 Interview Schedule Code VII/2/f
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 16
Interviewer Alix Naff City Ft. Wayne, Indiana Date July 1962

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Tape II
Side II
078-105

Mr. Azar was aware of the massacre of the Armenians by the Turks after WWI.

Informant Mrs. Bahieh Kappaz Sex F Age 83 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Orthodox Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 15
Interviewer Alix Naff City Detroit, Michigan Date May 16, 1980

Life in America: Pre World War I World War I 1920's X 1930's

I/B/1

Boston community: when France took over in Syria, Lebanon, there developed conflicts between Lebanese and Damascenes--many wounded or killed--police called in.

Informant Mrs. Zahdi Barsa Sex F Age 81 Interview Schedule Code VIII/2/f
Religious Sect Melkite Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 14
Interviewer Alix Naff City St. Claire Shores, MI Date May 21, 1980

Life in America: Pre-World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

I/B/3

In 1920's when French separated Lebanon from Syria, Muslim s killed Christians. She heard about this, did not read about this. Tells myth about miracle of St. George--see another note about this.

Informant Alexander K. Malik

Sex M Age 71* Interview Schedule Code MM/2/f

Religious Sect Orthodox

Country of Origin Syria Immigrant Age 19*

Interviewer Alix Naff

City Grand Rapids, Michigan Date July 1962

* deduced from information given

Life in America: Pre World War I _____ World War I _____ 1920's _____ 1930's _____

Side I
0-820

The Turkish government, after World War I (and presumably during) was not in a position to demand that Mr. Malik return to the homeland. The Alliance (Allies) were in control of Syria and Lebanon then. And then, five counties which had belonged to the Syrian part of the Turkish empire were joined¹ to the Lebanon, which was very small, and the country was renamed "The Great Lebanon".

But with all its greatness, the population of Lebanon is now 1½ million.

¹brought back

VIII/2/f