





Thy glory... my shelter

The speech of his Excellency, the President of the Republic General Michel Aoun

Soldiers,

No sacrifice is greater than the one you offer for the sake of the nation, its freedom and its security,

No honor is higher than the one you embody while defending the land and the identity with bravery,

And no loyalty is more noble than the one you carry in your hearts when offering your most precious possessions for the sake of your people and families...

This is the life of a soldier, our school, where the emblem becomes a commitment, a message and a life journey

And where will, fervor and belief are able to move mountains.

There are high hopes relying on you,

My trust in you is endless,

May God protect you.



Speech of the Armed Forces Commander General Joseph Aoun

72 years. This is the official age of the army in its national register which bright pages were outlined with the blood of martyrs and wounded soldiers. The enemy holds different faces, such as a historic enemy which is Israel and a new enemy which is terrorism as well as criminals and security saboteurs emerging every once in a while. However, the only thing that is constant is that the army will always remain loyal to its vow and promise in protecting Lebanon and targeting any side that dares to attack it.

I extend a salute of glory and veneration to the souls of our noble martyrs, as I would like to extend a salute of appreciation to our hero soldiers who trace with their bodies the cedars and rocks of Lebanon.

Moreover, I extend a salute of loyalty to the Lebanese people, for it is the spring that holds our elixir of life and the well from which we retrieve dignity and courage.

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The Order of the Day

Fellow troops,

The Army Day comes upon us today while the Lebanese look up to your bravery and valor in the battlefield where you keep on offering sacrifices to defend your Nation, people and the flag. And as we celebrate this Day, we cannot but remember hero soldiers who martyred and others who were injured or abducted by terrorist organizations. Terrorism remains the same whether its aggressions are launched from the southern border or the eastern border where you have tightened the noose to the maximum around terrorists during the past years. Today, you continue to firmly target these terrorists during the recent incidents in order to frustrate any attempt that these terrorists might make to escape towards safe villages or towards refugee camps with the aim of taking innocent villagers as human shields.

Fellow troops,

The consecutive preemptive operations that you conducted and keep on conducting in the frame of proactive security have protected the country and the people from grave dangers and minimized casualties in lives and properties. Your achievements are a source of pride to your army and to each and every one of you and a source of trust to the people and its political leadership that repeatedly confirmed on every occasion its appreciation to your efforts and sacrifices as well as your commitment to the higher humanitarian values and principles.

Being as such has turned you into the red lines that no one can cross for this transgression comes at the expense of the State interests and its institutions, as well as the safety of the citizens and their sacred right of leading a safe and free life.

You are the ones who draw the red lines in front of anyone who attempts to destabilize peace and order, targets the Institutions and tampers with the democratic life both in spirit and in practice. And just as you defended national stability during all the period of the presidential vacuum down to the election of General Michel Aoun as President of the Republic, you are called once again to provide the necessary security procedures to ensure the safety of the upcoming parliamentary elections while abstaining from any interference that leads you away from the mission assigned to you in a way that guarantees holding the elections in an ambiance of security, freedom and democracy.

Fellow troops,

Your persistence in confronting terrorism and tracking down perpetrators, in parallel with your complete readiness to face the Israeli enemy threats relying on your capabilities and the citizens right to resist and repel its aggressions in addition to your fruitful cooperation with the friend International Force in the frame of implementing security council resolution 1701, thus leading to the protection of the state and its institutions and fortifying it from any internal or external danger. It also contributes to preparing the solid ground for the workshop of social, economic and reform development, which grants your efforts multiple national dimensions and requires you to assume additional responsibilities.

In your day, your crystal clear image fills the nation's conscience and the love of your army beams in the eyes of its citizens. So remain committed to your vow to be a symbol of honor, sacrifice and loyalty and a hope that doesn't disappoint the citizens.



The Lebanese Army since its beginning until today

Introduction

Lebanon's rocky mountainous landscape and its harsh cold weather and climate required the Lebanese to adapt with its living requirements. It is a scientific fact that proves that all kinds of creatures adapt with the environment circumstances they live under in order to blend with it.

This is how the Lebanese were known for their strong and firm bodies that are able to endure the difficulties and troubles of life, for this fact did not prevent them from investing their will in overcoming these difficulties and paving the way for their survival in their land.

Therefore, it is only evident that those who were able to defeat nature are able to stand in the face of their enemies and defeat them. Therefore, the Lebanese people emanated as fighters. The farmer among them held the pickaxe in one hand while firmly grasping the handle of a knife in another and when he was able to acquire fire weapons, the gun or rifle became his constant companions.

1- An overview of the evolution of the Lebanese Armed Forces

Before Lebanon had an organized army with its own command, staff, departments and units, the Lebanese showed aptitude for discipline and commitment to the requirements of the adopted arrangements in a way that the first Lebanese warriors, namely in the era of Prince Fakhreddine el Maani (1572 - 1635) and Prince Bachir el Chehabi the Great II (1789 - 1840), have proven their competence in all battlefields, particularly in Majdel Anjar in 1623, Daraya in 1810, Mazze in 1820, Sanour (Palestine) in 1830, Homs in 1832, Wadi Bakka in 1838 and in Bhersaf in 1840.

Moreover, during the era of Prince Fakhreddine el Maani, Lebanon had an organized army that was constituted of its own citizens, along with a combat team called "Soukman", which were fierce individuals with an inborn combat tendency. This army was under the command of Prince Fakhreddine el Maani's guardian since his childhood Hajj Kiwan Nehme from Deir el Amar and the most prominent individual at that era.

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Prince Fakhreddine's era passed by and a period of time went by until the era of Chehabi Prince Bachir II began. His army went through a well-known battle in the land of Palestine, the battle of "Sanour" against the Towkan family in particular. During this battle, the Lebanese proved to be very competent and the prince named them "the land beasts".

Between 1860 and 1914, international circumstances necessitated that Lebanon would solely have internal security forces.

Later on, the Lebanese fought as volunteers in the armies of the allies during the last 2 years of World War I (1916 - 1918) in what was named the "Orient Legion", for they were particularly outstanding in Rafah, Toulkarem, Nablus and Damascus. In 1918, at the end of World War I, these volunteers formed along with their Syrian volunteer colleagues the essence of the "special armies" in the region.

Moreover, in 1920, a military academy was established in Damascus in order to provide officers to these armies, then it was transferred to Homs in 1932.

During World War II (1939 - 1945) the "Special Orient Armies", including a number of Lebanese units, participated in several battles beside the armies of the allies which are battles that took place in the Mediterranean basin, the Middle East and the French regions of Normandy, Alsace and even inside German territories.

Then, as a result of the Lebanese - French and Syrian - French accords in 1945, these armies were transferred to the Lebanese and Syrian Commands. Ever since that date, the Lebanese Command has been responsible for organizing its army on modern bases and providing it with the latest weapons and equipment as well as training its officers and soldiers so that they may defend the safety of the Lebanese territories.

2- The Lebanese military structure in the last four centuries:

- a- The existence of aspects of combat and military life before the era of Prince Fakhreddine.
- b- The Army of Prince Fakhreddine II from warriors and Sukman.
- c- The Lebanese men of war in the era of Prince Bashir Chehabi the Great II.
- d- The Lebanese police in the Era of the Mutasarrifate.
 - From 1860 until 1914
 - From 1914 until 1918
- e- The Lebanese warriors, formations and individuals from 1914 until

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1945.

f- The current Lebanese Army from 1945.

3- The distribution of Lebanese warriors from 1914 till 1945

- a- In the Arab Forces:
 - The forces of Sharif Hussein in the campaign of General Allenby
- b- In the French Forces:
 - Among French formations
 - Légion d'Orient
 - Armée du Levant
 - Troupes du Levant
 - Forces Françaises Libres du Levant
 - Among special formations
 - Milice Libanaise 1919 - 1920
 - Régiment Mixte Syrien 1921 - 1925
 - Chasseurs Libanais 1926 - 1930
 - Bataillon du Levant 1926 - 1930
 - 1930 - 1945
 - Chasseurs du Liban 1930 - 1945
- c- In the Ottoman Army:
 - The 4th army (Syria and Palestine - Taraa)
 - The 9th army (Basra - Iraq - Mosul)
 - The 1st and 2nd armies (Caucasus and Armenia)
 - The 5th army (Dardanelle in Turkey)
- d- In the US army:
 - The German French Front (1917 - 1918)
 - The German French Front (1944 - 1945)
 - The Pacific Front (1941 - 1945)
 - The Italian African Front (1942 - 1945)
- e- In the British army:
 - The Egyptian Front (1915 - 1918)
 - The Iraqi Front (1916 - 1918)
- f- In the other armies:
 - In the Australian army
 - In the Austrian army
 - In the Abyssinian army
 - In the Brazilian army
 - In the Argentinian army
 - In the Mexican army
 - In the Canadian army
 - In the Cuban army

4- Handing over the army to the Lebanese government from the French Mandate authorities

a- The first phase

On September 21, 1943, the Lebanese Parliament elected Cheikh Bechara el Khoury as President of the Lebanese Republic. The new government barely took hold of the reins of power when the relations aggravated between the Lebanese authorities and the French mandate authority, particularly after the national government amended some clauses of the constitution on 8 November 1943. Therefore, on 11 November, the French authorities arrested His Excellency the President of the Republic and Prime Minister Riad Beik el Solh as well as ministers: Camil Chamoun, Adel Ousayran, Salim Takla and MP Abdul Hamid Karamah and kept them detained in Rashaya Citadel. As a result, a temporary government was formed in Chamoun and was named "Free Lebanon's Government" so that it performs the duties of the legitimate detained government. This government included Habib Abi Shahla as President and Prince Majid Eslan as minister of Defense in addition to the Parliament Speaker Sabri Hamade, military advisor Colonel Fawzi Traboulsi and political advisor Khalil Taqi el Din.

On 22 November, the President of the Lebanese Republic and his companions were freed from prison and regained their positions in power and this development turned that day into the Lebanese Independence Day following a decree issued by the Cabinet.

The first action taken by the government members directly after their liberation from prison and taking back the reins of power can be summed up by making the first steps toward taking over the Army that embodied the symbol of independence and sovereignty. The government based this demand on the recognition of the Independence of Lebanon by allied great powers and all Arab countries on one hand, and on the fact that the Army personnel's salaries and expenses are covered through the country's treasury that is part of the mutual interests' budget. Additionally, the government managed to sign a protocol with the French authorities on 16 June 1944. The French side was represented by General Paul Emile Marie Beynet at the time (1883 - 1969) and the protocol stipulated that a part of the Army shall be placed under the command of the Lebanese government. On that occasion, a military parade was organized at the Municipal Court in Beirut on 17 June 1944. The ceremony was attended by the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister as well as the ministers and MPs. During the ceremony, the

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President of the Republic handed the Lebanese Flag to the "Zaïm" Fouad Chehab (Colonel Chehab at the time). The ceremony included Swedish exercises performed by all the Lebanese units.

According to the protocol of 16 June of the same year, the national government demanded to place the first Lebanese Snipers Regiment under its command reinforced with a detachment of armored vehicles with the aim of restoring order in northern Lebanon, especially since the mentioned Regiment had previously performed admirable achievements throughout the country.

b- The second phase

On 29 January 1945, the national government presented an official demand to the French authorities asking for the complete takeover of the Army. This demand was enclosed with a telegram issued on 17 June of that year and both the demand and the telegram included the following points:

- Handing over the Lebanese units operating under the command of the French authorities along with their weapons, ammunition, equipment and barracks.
- Withdrawal of French armies from Lebanese territories.
- Handing over the remaining mutual service departments to the local authorities.
- Ensuring diplomatic representation overseas.

At the beginning, the French side refused these demands and suggested signing a treaty that included granting the French government a distinguished position in the Orient before initiating any such negotiations.

Upon the National governments' insistence over its perspectives and its resoluteness in this regard relying on its righteous claims, the French government issued a communiqué to the press on 8 July 1945 that included its approval to hand over the national army to the Lebanese government in a time limit that does not exceed 45 days.

In implementation of this decision, the concerned governments, namely the Lebanese, the Syrian and the French formed a committee charged with studying the details of the transfer of power. The negotiations of the committee in this frame took place at Masabki - Shtoura Hotel on 12 July 1945 headed by Colonel Fouad Chehab who represented the

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Lebanese side along with 3 other officers. A committee representing the British side participated in parts of these talks since the French armies in the Orient, including the Special Armies, were affiliated at that time to the sixth British Army. Moreover, subcommittees emerged from the principal committee in Beirut.

As a result of the negotiations that took place in Shtoura, the Lebanese government issued a communiqué where it indicated that it took over the reins of the Lebanese Army. This communiqué was followed by a governmental decree in which "el-Zaïm" Fouad Chehab was appointed as Lebanese Army Commander and "el-Zaïm" Sleiman Nawfal as Chief of Army Staff at the Ministry of National Defense.

On the first of August 1945 and for the first time ever, the Lebanese flag was hoisted on top of the Ministry of Defense Headquarters and the Lebanese military units that became under the government's command passed in review before the President of the Republic Bechara el-Khoury who was surrounded by Prime Minister Riyad el-Solh and a number of State senior officials.

On 20 July 1945, all military equipment, weapons and ammunition were transferred, along with the mentioned military units to the barracks that were built thanks to funds of the budget of the mutual service departments as the French authorities have acknowledged. The total figures of army personnel that the French mandate authorities have transferred to the Syrian government amounted to around 20.000 troops, and around 5000 troops were transferred to the command of the Lebanese government.

Furthermore, the French government temporarily placed the remaining barracks on loan under the command of the Lebanese government since they were built with funds provided from the budget of the French National Defense. These barracks were later placed under permanent Lebanese control in 1946 following the signature of the currency agreement and the transfer became a fact on 24 January 1948.

Army Staff and army service departments were formed according to the following principles as the first action taken by the Army Command after taking over the reins of the army:

- Organizing military units according to national and independent features in a way that allows the army to handle its own livelihood

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- affairs after it was under the command of a foreign leadership.
- Making a number of adjustments in the army units and giving them a convenient stature vis-à-vis the country's geography and capabilities.
- Establishing new service departments and institutions instead of the French service departments and institutions that the Army can dispense with.
- Completing the number of personnel in these units and establishing new units.

5 – The transferred units

The Lebanese government took over from the French Command the reins of the following units: 2nd and 3rd Sniper Regiments, the Military School, the Ski and Mountain Combat School, the Lebanese Red Cross, the Lebanese Navy, the Air Force, the Lebanese gendarmerie, the Higher Center for Military Sports, the Army Band, the Military Healthcare and the Military Police.

The first army unit that the Lebanese government has received from the French side consisted in its core from the Snipers Regiments that were basically part of the Legion of the Orient formed during WWI and specifically on 15 November 1916 when the Allies sponsored the creation of these units that consisted of Lebanese, Syrians and Armenians both residents and expatriates who enlisted to fight in the ranks of these countries' armies with the aim of liberating their countries from Ottoman occupation. The number of individuals enlisted in these units in 1919 amounted to around 4500 and one third of them were Lebanese. This unit remained up until February 1919 when it was substituted with the "Lebanese - Syrian units".

This development was followed by the establishment of other military units in the Orient and thus the "Lebanese - Syrian units" which were a part of these units took the name of "Auxiliary Forces".

During this stage, the "Snipers" Regiments became widely renowned after being established in 1922 and consisted of two companies with troops taken from the security forces personnel. However, the military units created in 1920 were re-established in late 1925 and four military companies of Lebanese volunteers alone were part of these units. These companies took at a later time the name of the "First Snipers Regiment". In 1926, 4 new military companies were created and distributed between Zahle, Riyaq, el-Khiyam and Nabatieh and were all affiliated under the

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"Second Snipers Regiment".

Afterwards, the merger of troops from both snipers regiments with other troops from regiments of the "Orient Army" took place between 1925 and 1926. Then, 8 snipers regiments were established and were called "Lebanon's Snipers" or "Alternative Units" and were distributed as follows:

- First Company in Marjeyoun.
- Second Company in el-Khiyam.
- Third Company in Rashaya.
- Fourth Company in Hasbaya.
- Fifth Company in Andkit.
- Sixth Company el-Fakeha
- Seventh Company in Baalbek
- Eighth Company in el-Shoueifat, Baabda and Fiadieh.

Resolution 3045 was issued on 30 March 1930 concerning these alternative units, which turned them into regular forces. Afterwards, the first and second snipers regiments were formed. With the beginning of World War II in September 1939, the formation of the third snipers regiment began with personnel of the mentioned two regiments and from an additional Lebanese company that was taken from the first regiment of the Levant that was deployed in Tripoli. It was definitively established in the Bekaa in 1942 and was the last regiment to be formed in the mandate era.

As for the "assisting armies of the Levant", their name became "the special armies of the Levant" starting March 1930, in order to indicate the local national formations.

Moreover, in 1934, a Lebanese cavalier's platoon was established and later divided into 2 battalions that formed the core of the Mechanized Regiment. 3 years after that, in 1937, the "Lebanese Mountain Battery" was formed and constituted the core of the Coast Artillery, field artillery and anti-airplanes regiments as well the Navy.

Moreover in 1939, the platoon of the Light Armored Vehicles was formed and constituted the core of a Tanks Battalion.

6- The Army between yesterday and today

Just as the army sprung to life from the core of the uniting national will on 1 August 1945 and was committed to its vow towards the Lebanese people during 72 years of sacrifice, defending the nation against the Israeli enemy and protecting its people from the abyss of tumult and

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division, it perseveres today, constantly prepared at the southern borders to face all schemes and historic greediness in the Lebanese land, sea and natural resources that the enemy holds towards Lebanon. The friend International force assist the Lebanese army in performing this mission, in implementation of the Security Council resolution 1701. Moreover, the army continues to fight battles in order to defend Lebanon against an enemy that is just as dangerous as the first, which is terrorism with its different forms, styles and names. Prior to the spread of this danger at a large scale with the beginning of 2011 in different countries of the region in a way that turned it into a global epidemic, the Lebanese army was a pioneer in facing it, starting from the barren lands of Donniye in the beginning of the year 2000, then in Nahr el Bared in 2007 and in Abra in 2013, reaching Ersal in 2014 and the Tripoli incidents of the same year then at the eastern borders on several phases.

The army was able, despite its modest capabilities, to gain victory over terrorism in all battles and incidents. It was also able to dismantle terrorism's main structure through preemptive qualitative operations that took place at the borders or inside the country and preserved the nation from the regional fires spreading to its land at a time where major armies were unable to accomplish this achievement.

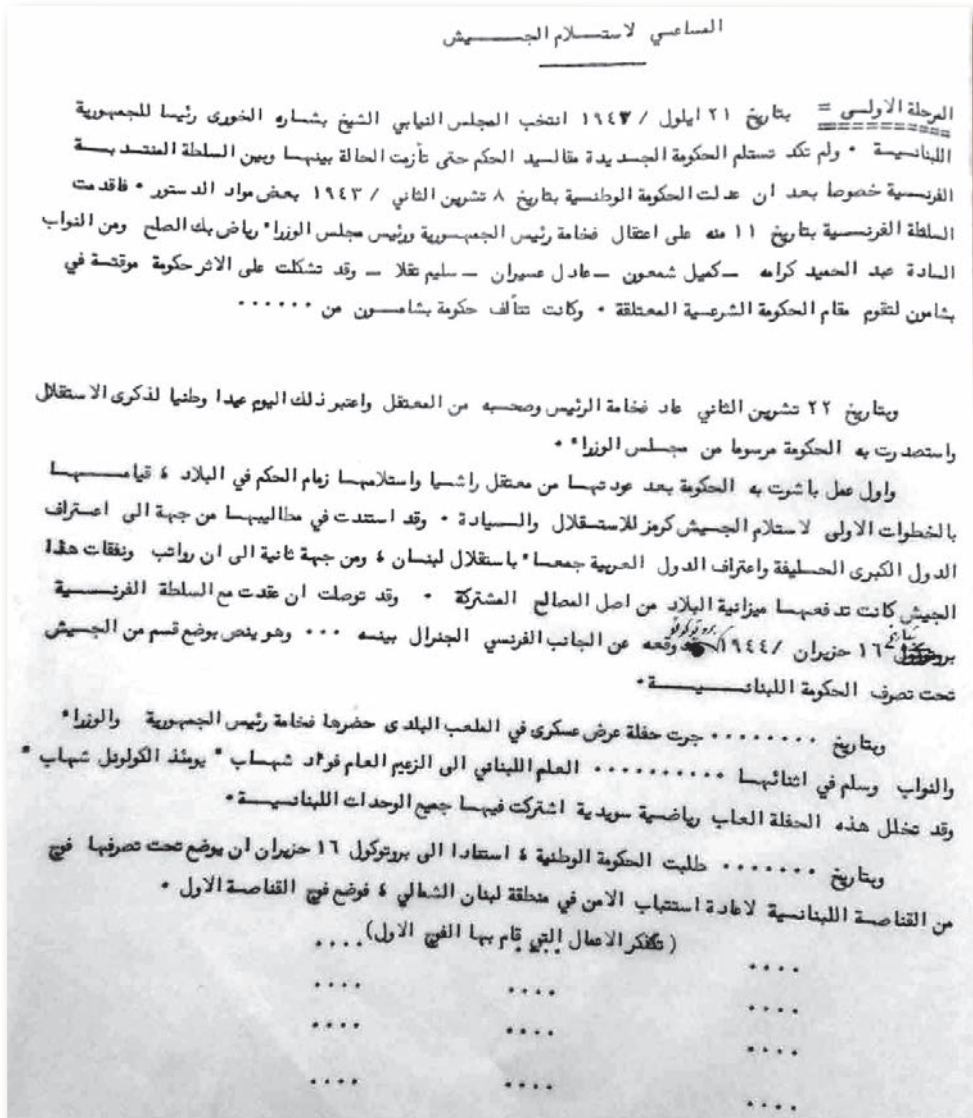
In parallel with all the previously mentioned facts, the army continues to perform the mission of preserving security and stability in the country and is firm in fighting any side that breaches security as well as individuals who commit all kinds of organized crime. The army also continues to perform developmental, humanitarian and cultural missions that are part of its vision in the necessity to bolster the relation with the civil community, contribute to boosting national economy and lessening the burdens imposed upon the citizens.

Conclusion

This is Lebanon's army. Some of its weapon come from the factories and workshops of the world, as for the others, they come from inside the country, emanating from hearts filled with belief and national belonging. Hearts that are proud in the bright history, outlined by our ancestors over time, which resulted in the achievement of independence. It is the weapon of national unity which we use to fight any force that attacks the nation before using the rifle and with which we strike at any hand that attempts to target the security of its people.

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A suggestion draft of the text citing the efforts aiming to receive the Lebanese Army from the French authorities (picture of the original document)



المرحلة الثانية = بتاريخ ٢٩ كانون الثاني سنة ١٩٤٥ قدمت الحكومة الوطنية طلبا رسميا الى السلطة
الافرنسية يتعلق باستلام الجيش بكامله والحقت هذا الطلب ببرقية صادرة بتاريخ ٢٧ حزيران من نفس السنة ،
وقد تضمن كل من الطلب والبرقية النقاط التالية =

اولا = تسليم **الوجهات** اللبنانية العاملة تحت سلطة القيادة الفرنسية مع اسلحتها وذخائرها ومعدات **الوجهات**
وشكائهما .

ثانيا = جلاء **الجيش** الفرنسي عن المناطق اللبنانية

ثالثا = انتقال ما تبقى من المصالح المشتركة الى السلطة المحلية

رابعا = التمثيل **الخارجي** .

- اما الجانب الفرنسي فقد رفض **هادي** " ذي بد " هذه المطالبات واقترح قبل الدخول في مثل
هذه المفاوضات عقد معاهدة تتضمن منح الحكومة الفرنسية مركزا ممتازا في الشرق راميا من وراء ذلك الى
تأمين مصالح **الحسوية** في لبنان وسوريا والتي تتعلق بالوجهات الثقافية والاقتصادية والاستراتيجية .
وعند اصرار الحكومة الوطنية على وجهات نظرها وبصمودها امام عدالة مطالبها ونقلها المفاوضات الى فرنسا
ففسحها مع الحكومة الفرنسية الموقفة ، اقنع هذه الاخيرة فنزلت عن مطالبها واعلنت بتاريخ ٨ تموز / ١٩٤٥
بلافا في **المجرائد** يتضمن قبولها لتسليم الجيش الوطني الى الحكومتين السورية واللبنانية خلال مدة لا يتعدى
حدها خمسة واربعون يوما .

وتنفيذا لهذا القرار عمت كل من الحكومت صاحبة العلاقة لجنة رئيسية لدراس كيفية التسليم والتسليم
وكانت تدور مفاوضات هذه اللجان في شتورا في فندق سابكي " وقد ابتدأت بتاريخ **** وانتهت بتاريخ

ان اللجان المذكورة فكانت تتألف كما يلي =

{ عن الجانب اللبناني

{ عن الجانب السوري

{ عن الجانب الفرنسي

*** / ***

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وقد اشتركت في قسم من هذه المفاوضات لجنة عن الجانب البريطاني للمؤلفة من
وذلك لان الجيوش الفرنسية في الشرق هما فيها الجيوش الخاصة - كانت تابعة يومئذ من وجهة القيادة
الى الجيش السادس البريطاني *
اما اللجان الرئيسية فقد تشكل منها لجان فرعية في بيروت كان قوامها =

عن الجانب اللبناني

عن الجانب السوري

عن الجانب الفرنسي

وخلال المحادثات التي كانت تجري في شخرا اذاعت الحكومة اللبنانية بتاريخ
البلاغ التالي

وعلى اثر صدور هذا البلاغ اصدرت الحكومة مرسوما بتعيين الزعيم شهاب قاندا للجيش اللبناني والزعيم
نوفل رئيسا لاركان حرب وزارة الدفاع الوطني *
وتاريخ اول آب استعرض فخامة رئيس الجمهورية لأول مرة امام بناية وزارة الدفاع الوطني الوحدات اللبنانية
التي انتقلت الى الحكومة الوطنية وهي مفصلة كما يلي

وقد انتقل مع هذه الوحدات جميع العتاد والاسلحة والذخيرة والكتل التي اعترفت بها السلطة الفرنسية
انها مبنية من اصل موازنة المصالح المشتركة وهي التي ذكرها =

.../...

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أما الشكوك المبهمة انداء فقد وضعتها الحكومة الفرنسية موتنا على سبيل الاعارة تحت تصرف الحكومة اللبنانية لكونها مبنية من اصل موازنة الدفاع الوطني الا فرسي ، وقد انتقلت نهائيا الى الحكومة اللبنانية بتاريخ ١٩٤٦ / على اشراف ابرام اتفاقية النقصد .

.....

....

تنظيم الجيش =

ان اول عمل قامت به القيادة بعد استلام الجيش هو تشكيل دوائر اركان الحرب ومصالح الجيش تمهيدا للاعمال الاتية =

اولا = تنظيم الوحدات تنظيمها يرتدي طابعا وطنيا مستقلا يسمح للجيش ان يتدبر بنفسه شؤنه حياته ومعيشته بعد ان كان تابعاً لقيادة اجنبية ؛

ثانيا = احدث بعض التعديلات في وحدات الجيش واعطائها وضعاً ملائماً لجغرافية البلاد وامكانياتها

ثالثا = انشا * مصالح ومؤسسات جديدة بدلا من المصالح والمؤسسات الفرنسية التي يمكن للجيش الاستغناء عنها .

رابعا = اكمال العدد في بعض الوحدات وانشا * وحدات جديدة .

Mathaf in 1969
showing the poster for the Army Day



الأوّل من آب
يَوم
الجمّيش





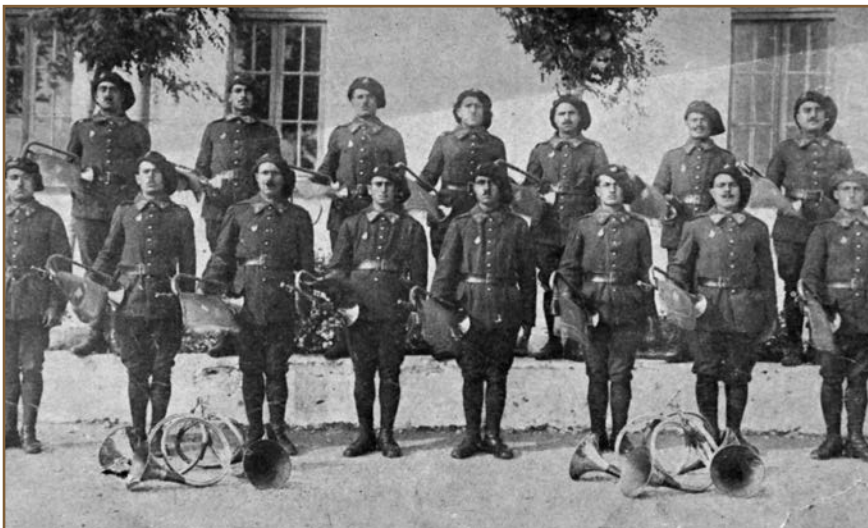
Cadet Officer Fouad Chehab, to his right Cadet Officer Jamil Lahoud part the first course of the Military Academy (1921 - 1923)



The Military School - Homs



Cadet Officers part of the first course
of the Military School in Damascus



Members of the music band
of the Lebanese snipers, who formed the core of the Army Band



The graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the municipal courtyard - Course of 1950 (Tenure of His Excellency President Bechara el Khoury)



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1957 (Tenure of His Excellency President Kamil Chamoun)

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Course of 1958 in the Military School
and Cadet Officer Michel Aoun in the center of the picture



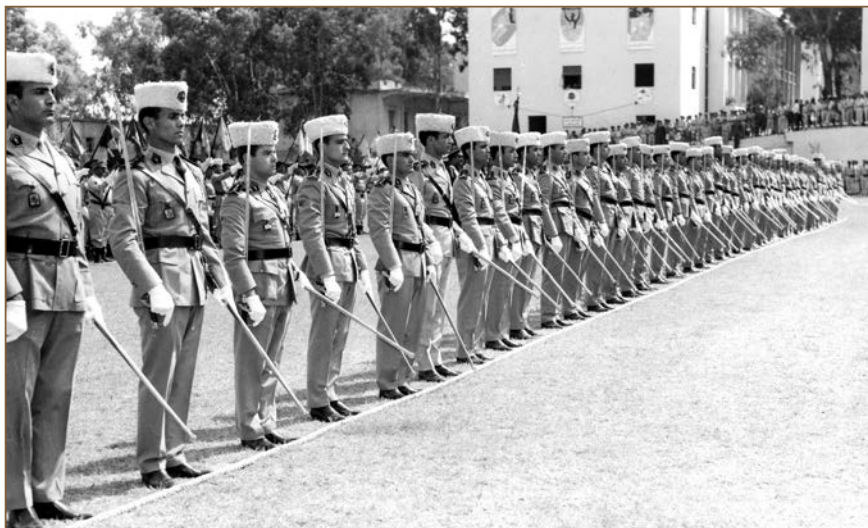
The graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 1963 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Fouad Chehab)



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 1965 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Charles Helou)



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1966



Graduation ceremony of
Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1968



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1970



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 1971 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Sleiman Frangieh)



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1974

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Receiving cadet officers
in the Military School in 1974



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1975

Thy glory... my shelter



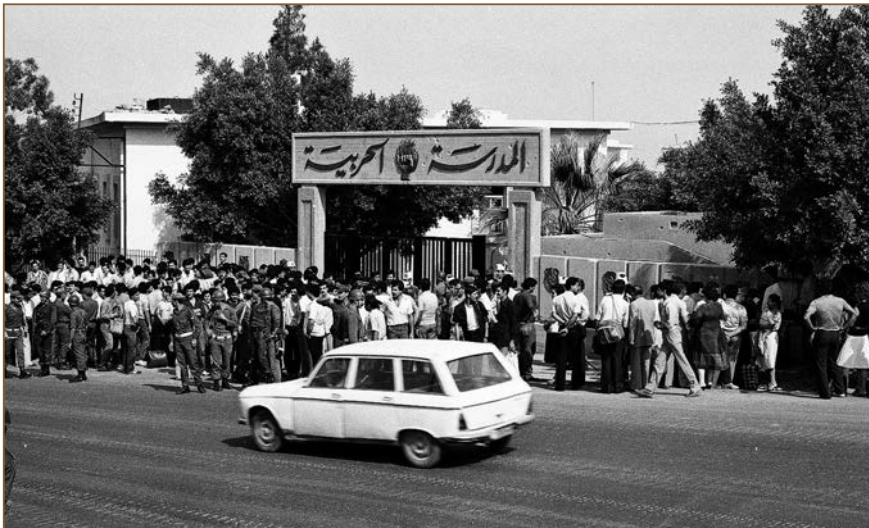
Celebration of the Army Day
in the Ministry of Defense in 1977



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 1980 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Elias Sarkis)



Graduation ceremony of
Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1980



Receiving Cadet Officers of Course 1985 in 1983

Thy glory... my shelter



Celebration of the Army Day
in the Ministry of Defense in 1985



Celebration of the Army Day
in the Military School in 1985



General Michel Aoun during
the celebration of the Army Day in Yarzeh in 1985



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 1986 (Tenure of His Excellency President Amine el Gemayel)

Thy glory... my shelter



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1986



From the celebrations of the Army Day in Fiyadiye

Thy glory... my shelter



From the celebrations of the Army Day in Fiyadiye



Graduation ceremony of specialized Officers
(males and females) in the Military School - Course
of 1992 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Elias Hrawi)

Thy glory... my shelter



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1994



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1995



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 1996



Graduation ceremony
of Cadet Officers in the Military School - Course of 2001



Graduation ceremony of Cadet Officers in the Military School -
Course of 2003 (Tenure of His Excellency, President Emile Lahoud)



Following the graduation ceremony of cadet officers
in the military school (hall of honor) - course of 2010
(Tenure of His Excellency, President Michel Suleiman)

Former Commanders of the Lebanese Army



Major General
Fouad Chehab
1945 - 1958



Major General
Toufic Salem
1958 - 1959



Major General
Adel Chehab
1959 - 1965



General
Emile Boustany
1965 - 1970



General
Jean Njeim
1970 - 1971



General
Iskandar Ghanem
1971 - 1975



General
Hanna Said
1975 - 1977



General
Victor Khoury
1977 - 1982



General
Ibrahim Tannous
1982 - 1984



General
Michel Aoun
1984 - 1989



General
Emile Lahoud
1989 - 1998



General
Michel Suleiman
1998 - 2008



General
Jean Kahwagi
2008 - 2017