

on their part to challenge the Israeli threat. Needless to say that this group was more than willing to merge their forces with the Beirut-based group.

The next move in the process of regrouping the terrorist organizations was somewhat more difficult. Al-Hindi was dealing now with professional terrorists who had had previous experience in Egypt. It is this fact that made the "Egyptian Group" the whole more important to the amateur terrorists of the former two groups. Al-Hindi approached this group through Husayn Tawfiq, a young terrorist who had been accused of the murder of a former Egyptian Minister, 'Uthman Amin'.¹⁶ Husayn was a single-minded patriot who felt ill at ease with men of ideas. Al-Hindi had a hard time convincing him of the need to work out a political program for the prospective organization. Instead he proposed a series of projects to be undertaken jointly by the combined forces of the three groups. The discussions between the two dragged on for sometime until it was decided that a joint meeting between the representatives of the three groups should be called to resolve the differences.

The representatives of the three groups met in March 1949. Al-Hindi and Habash represented the Beirut-based group, Jihad Dhahi represented the "Syrian Group"

¹⁶Patrick Seale, The Struggle for Syria (London: Oxford University Press, 1965), p. 98.