

Anniversary of the July 23 Revolution. Nasser's call for "a Unified Arab Nationalist Movement which would incorporate all the nationalist movements of the Arab World"²⁷ was especially appealing to the ANM which was then thinking on similar lines. In fact, a special session of the National Congress of the ANM which met in the aftermath of the Ba'th coups in Iraq and Syria, addressed itself wholly to the crisis of the Arab national movement which was experiencing regional and ideological fragmentation. Moreover, the ANM decided in that same congress that the issue of uniting the revolutionary forces in the Arab World should be further explored with Nasser himself.²⁸

It was only natural, therefore, that the ANM would hasten to dispatch a delegation to Cairo to meet with Nasser in order to pursue the problem. The Arab Nationalists' delegation conveyed to President Nasser the ANM's hope that the U.A.R. would act to bring about an alliance between the Egyptian Socialist Union, the Algerian National Liberation Front, the ANM, and other revolutionary forces as a first step towards the establishment of a single Arab socialist movement. Nasser agreed that the Arab national movement was

²⁷"The Speech of President Jamal Abdul Nasser on the 11th Anniversary of the 23rd of July Revolution", Cairo, July 22, 1963, (Official Pamphlet) in Walid Khalidi and Yosuf Ibish (eds.) Arab Political Documents 1963 (Beirut: The American University, n.d.), p. 333.

²⁸Statement by Muhsin Ibrahim, personal interview, November 16, 1968.