

in Jordan in the early 'fifties, thinks that it was inconceivable for the founders of the ANM whose objective was to create a combat party not to recognize the organizational weapon of the successful revolutions in history such as the Communist parties of the Soviet Union and China.² Indeed it is deemed necessary for a movement which has to adopt itself equally for conditions of open struggle and clandestine combat to observe strict discipline and centralization. However, centralization may be autocratic or democratic depending on the role of the rank and file in the policy-making process within the party apparatus.³ To which form of centralism does the ANM subscribe?

It is rather difficult to give a clear cut answer. On one hand, the ANM recognizes the worth and importance of all its members. It encourages them to discuss freely at party meetings all questions pertaining to party life. It urges them to utilize the principle of "criticism and self-criticism", an important item on the agenda of party meetings, to expose the shortcomings in the work of the Movement or anyone of its members. Furthermore, the ANM urges its members to address questions and to make proposals to the higher organs of the Movement. On the other hand, the decisions which are made at the higher levels of the

²Personal interview, June 23, 1970.

³Barbara and Robert North (trans.), Political Parties, by Maurice Duverger (London: Methuen, 1967), p. 2.