

Movement, the Arab Nationalists whose objectives include the overturning of the existing order in the Arab states cannot have the luxury of convening their leaders under one roof before the watching eyes of the security police in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria or any Arab state for that matter.<sup>14</sup> This may be a good justification for not convening a Regional Conference in a state where the crack down on the leadership of the Movement might be suicidal to the organization, but it is certainly challenged by many leaders in the second level of the hierarchy, (i.e., the Section), who are either in disagreement with the Command of the Region on certain issues or who aspire to participate in the proceedings of a higher organ of the Movement. These "second-class" leaders accept the elite's justification only as partially true; they claim that many members of the Command of the Region have become authoritarian in character and hence are not prepared to be questioned by those who are below them in the hierarchy.<sup>15</sup> This is a very serious charge which is impossible to verify for lack of information. The author failed to convince more than a few leaders to elaborate on this problem. However, it is the author's feeling that one of the reasons for the leaders' failure to call for Regional Conferences is the unwillingness on the part of the leaders

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<sup>14</sup>Statement by anonymous, personal interview, November 9, 1968.

<sup>15</sup>Based on personal interviews with a number of ANM members in Iraq, November 5, 6 and 7, 1968.