



New England Americans for Lebanon

التيار الوطني الحر - بوسطن

118 Ten Hills Road, Somerville, MA 02145-1033

neal-ma@attbi.com Tel/Fax 617 - 776 - 7499

Boston, Massachusetts – Nov 22, 2002

On the eve of official events and demonstrations mourning Lebanon's lost independence,

At the same time that students protesting for their country's freedom from the Syrian occupation are being clubbed to death in the streets of Beirut,

On the eve of the Paris-II conference organized by Prime Minister Hariri to beg for money from Western countries he and his Syrian masters otherwise revile,

After 12 years of direct Syrian rule, for which PM Hariri continues to play the puppet ruler, and because of which all his economic revival dreams have gone nowhere,

And after all the assurances that civil peace has returned and that Americans are once again safe in Lebanon, free from the Syrian-organized killings, assassinations, kidnappings and bombings of the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s,

At the same time that Adnan Addoum is prosecuting dozens of Lebanese leaders and Lebanese Americans who speak against the vulgar Syrian occupation of Lebanon, instead of investigating the crimes committed by his own Syrian Intelligence operatives against freedom-seeking individuals,

A few days after 3 American fast food restaurants have been bombed in various parts of Syrian-occupied Lebanon,

In the very heart of Sidon, Prime Minister Hariri's own hometown, an American nurse, Bonnie Weatherall, was assassinated in broad daylight Thursday at the Unity Center, which housed an Evangelical church and a clinic catering to low-income Lebanese and Palestinian families.

The New England Americans for Lebanon mourns the killing of yet another American friend of the maimed country at the hands of barbarians claiming to speak in the name of Islam or Arab nationalism. This death reminds us all that Lebanon's only salvation is in the return of sovereignty and the rule of law.

For PM Hariri to go begging for help from the same Western countries whose citizens are being murdered by his own townspeople is barbaric and indecent.

NEAL urges the international community to withhold any assistance to the Lebanese regime at the Paris II conference until Prime Minister Hariri himself guarantees that the investigation into the murder of Bonnie Weatherall will identify the criminals who committed this act of terror and bring them to justice.

New England Americans for Lebanon