

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION MIDYEAR COMMITTEE MEETINGBeirut, LebanonMarch 1, 19662:30 P. M.PRESENT

R. A. Wilcox, R. W. Wilmot, R. E. Anderson, Behnam Arshat, C. V. Brauer, D. L. Chappell, V. A. Fenn, A. A. Haddad, Kenneth Harding, J. Sherwood Jones, George Khoury, H. D. Lamp, M.D., D. C. Ludington, M.D., L. Curtis Miller, Manoug Nazirian, H. E. Robinson, K. L. Vine
By Invitation: W. J. Clemons, George Ghazal, Jabbour Semaan.

DEVOTIONAL

As the opening text for the worship period, R. A. Wilcox read 1 Timothy 1:1, a text for modern man with modern trouble. He emphasized that all workers should connect themselves with every phase of the work in the field. A season of prayer was led by H. C. Lamp, George Ghazal, and V. A. Fenn.

PROGRAM
66/38

VOTED, To approve the daily program as published in the agenda folder.

SUBCOMMITTEES
66/39

VOTED, To approve the appointments to the subcommittees as published in the agenda folder.

DISTRIBUTION
OF AGENDA

Items of the agenda were distributed to the subcommittees.

A. J. HABIBI, M.D.
PLANS
66/40

VOTED, To recommend to the Iran Section that A. J. Habibi, M.D. return to Iran while he awaits the results of the medical examinations taken at the A. U. B., and if he finds it necessary to take further study for future examinations, that he do so in Tehran; if he is successful in the examinations taken and is accepted in the U. S. for an internship, that he leave from his home country--Iran.

PURCHASE OF 1966
SABBATH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT FILM
66/41

VOTED, To authorize the Sabbath School Department to purchase the 1966 General Conference Sabbath School film.

KERAK RENT CEILING
66/42

VOTED, To raise the rent ceiling in Kerak, Jordan to 35 per cent on recommendation of the Jordan Section Committee.

COLPORTEUR
COLLECTION PLAN
66/43

VOTED, To authorize D. L. Chappell to inform the local Sections that the Colporteur Collection Plan is proving successful and that it is highly recommended by the Division. If they wish to implement this plan they should contact Elder Chappell so that he can help them to put it into action and follow it up. Fields desiring to use this plan should submit their request to the Middle East Division.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned for the day at 4:40 p.m. Prayer was offered by Behnam Arshat.

OPENING

The committee reconvened at 8:00 a.m., March 2. Prayer was offered by W. J. Clemons.

AUTOMOBILE
POLICY REVIEW
66/44

VOTED, To recommend that an amount up to 50 per cent of the customs duty on a new small (1300) Volkswagen, in the country where purchased, be paid to a worker who has been authorized an automobile, to help him with the additional expenses involved in purchasing an automobile, this to be granted once within a 5-year period and to be effective January 1, 1966.

MEDICAL EXPENSE
POLICY
66/45

VOTED, To recommend that when a person desires to purchase contact lenses instead of regular glasses, the medical assistance be paid on the amount that regular glasses would cost as the examining physician would prescribe. Glasses, as a rule, should not be changed oftener than every two years.

UTILITY ALLOWANCE
POLICY
66/46

VOTED, To recommend that married workers shall pay the equivalent of the first LL 147.50 of their total utility bills including fuel, gas, electricity, and water, the balance to be shared by the employing organization and the worker on a 75/25 per cent basis. The worker would pay the smaller amount.

Single workers living alone or sharing an apartment with another worker, will pay the equivalent of the first LL 115.00 of their total utility bills, the balance to be shared by the employing organization and the worker on a 75/25 per cent basis, the worker paying the smaller amount.

The worker must submit receipted bills when claiming the utility allowance. Bills may be submitted as of June 30 and December 31 each year.

Single workers living with their families may receive a utility allowance equivalent to LL 5.00 per month. No receipts required.

This policy is to be effective as of January 1, 1966 where the field is capable of handling such expense.

ANEES HADDAD
RESIGNATION
SUPREME COUNCIL
REPRESENTATIVE
66/47

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Anees Haddad as the representative on the Supreme Council of Protestant Churches in Lebanon and Syria and that George Khoury be appointed to fill this vacancy.

PINE ECHOES
ADVERTISEMENT
66/48

VOTED, To authorize a full-page ad in the Middle East College Pine Echoes for 1966.

FAKHRY NAGUIB
AUTOMOBILE
AUTHORIZATION
 66/49

VOTED, To approve the request of the Egypt Section for automobile authorization for the pastor of the Assiut district, provided the Egypt Section has the funds available. A travel budget of 500 kilometers is authorized along with the automobile authorization.

LEBANON SECTION
WELFARE REQUEST
 66/50

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the request of the Lebanon Section for 100 bales of used clothing.

GENERAL CONFERENCE
DELEGATES
EVANGELISTIC
TRAINING PROGRAM
 66/51

VOTED, To amend Action 65/349, par. 4, by approving the following program for the Middle East Division delegates to the Fiftieth Quadrennial Session of the General Conference:

Sunday, May 22-28	En Route to Andrews	7 days
May 29-June 9	Study at Andrews	12 "
June 10-12	En Route to Pre-session	3 "
June 13-25	Sessions	13 "
June 26-July 12	Study at Andrews	17 "
July 13-21	Vacation and/or Assignments En Route to Field School	9 "
July 22-Aug. 20	Field School	30 "
August 21-30	Return Home	9 "
	Total No. of Days	<u>100</u>

It is understood that these delegates will receive no additional vacation time during the current year.

BENGHAZI HOSPITAL
CALL FOR MR. & MRS.
JABBOUR SEMAAN
 66/52

VOTED, To pass on to the Middle East Press the call of the Benghazi Hospital for the services of Mr. and Mrs. Jabbour Semaan, he to be director of Public Health and to use his abilities in other various aspects of the medical work, and for his wife to serve as a nurse.

CYPRUS SECTION
CALL FOR
PASTOR-EVANGELIST
 66/53

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the call of the Cyprus Section for a pastor-evangelist, recommending the name of Neils Erik Andreasen who is now attending Andrews University.

RECESS

After prayer by Elder Robinson, the committee took the regular noon recess. It reconvened at 2:00 p.m. and Elder Miller offered the opening prayer.

TURKEY SECTION
CALL FOR MR. & MRS.
OHANNES DELICE
 66/54

VOTED, To pass on to the Lebanon Section the call of the Turkey Section for Mr. and Mrs. Ohannes Delice to connect with their mission as Bible workers.

VACATION POLICY
66/55

VOTED, To approve the following revision of the Vacation Policy:

All regular full-time Seventh-day Adventist workers who are in denominational employ may be granted a vacation of 14 consecutive days each year on salary, as arranged for by the officers and approved by the controlling committees or boards. All travel and other expenses involved are considered to be personal. In principle, it is understood that vacations are granted after completion of one year of denominational service. These arrangements should be made in the first quarter of the year.

Workers shall take vacations during the calendar year with the exception that one week (7 days) of vacation time may be carried over to the succeeding year on prior approval of the controlling committee or board.

An additional one-week (7 days) vacation may be allowed workers who have put in 15 years or more of continuous full-time denominational service. It is understood that in no case will a vacation exceed 28 consecutive days in one year.

In the case of a worker who has not had continuous service it is required that he have a total service of one year additional to the 15 for each year that he has been out of denominational employ in order to qualify for the three-week (21 days) vacation in harmony with the principle followed in reckoning the period for sustentation eligibility.

In transferring workers, the vacation should be considered in working out the settlement between the two organizations or institutions involved. Otherwise, the organization employing the worker at the time the vacation is taken will be responsible.

Workers desiring to take their vacation outside the Division territory should have the approval of the Division Committee, except Benghazi workers visiting Greece.

Part-time workers, who work half time or more, will be given an annual vacation in proportion to the time they have worked.

Exceptions

In some areas climatic conditions prevail that are adverse to the health and well being of the worker. Often it is necessary to travel long distances in order to reach an area of moderate climate. In view of these facts, certain exceptions to the Vacation Policy are granted.

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The following are the exceptions to the Vacation Policy:

Non-Libyans working in Benghazi will receive an additional one-week (7 days) vacation every second year with a transportation allowance equal to 50 per cent of the round-trip tourist air fare to their home within the Middle East.

Workers in Aden, Iraq, Khuzistan, Kuwait, and Sudan will receive a basic vacation of three weeks (21 days) per year. Those who are working outside their home country will receive an additional one-week (7 days) vacation every second year with a transportation allowance equal to 50 per cent of the round-trip tourist air fare to their home within the Middle East.

Workers living in one of the above areas who are entitled to a three-week (21 days) vacation because of having 15 or more years of service shall be entitled to add one week (7 days) to the length of vacation stated for their particular field, but four weeks (28 days) shall be the maximum length of vacation under the application of any provision of this policy including the carry-over of 7 days from the previous year.

The transportation allowance is for the worker and his dependent family. It is paid for travel that is actually undertaken. It is not accumulative, and is forfeited if not used during the calendar year in which the vacation is due. If the worker prefers to take the trip to his homeland every four years instead of every two years, the transportation allowance will be increased to 100 per cent. It is understood that the 7 days additional vacation time allowed in the policy is for travel time to be taken in connection with the worker's visit to his homeland.

Educational Workers

Regular full-time educational workers shall be entitled to the same vacation privileges as any other regular full-time worker. The principal of the school shall be responsible to provide work assignments for educational workers under his/her direction on days during the school year when classes do not meet, but which have not been designated among the eight holidays approved by the controlling committee. The summer program of such workers, if they are employed in schools which do not offer summer classes, shall be under the direction of the controlling committee.

The Vacation Policy shall be reviewed each year at the time of the annual meeting of the Middle East Division Committee

ANEES HADDAD
REQUEST FOR STUDY
66/56

VOTED, To authorize Anees Haddad to attend Andrews University to work on his Master's degree in Sociology as soon as it can be worked out with the University. Elder Haddad is a delegate to the General Conference session and he will begin his study program following the session and under the provisions of the Policy for Advanced Study by Workers of the Middle East Division.

GEORGE ISSA
REQUEST FOR STUDY
66/57

VOTED, To approve the request of the Lebanon Section for George Issa to attend Middle East College under the Worker In-Service Training Policy beginning with the 1966-67 school year. It is understood that he will be able to get his B. A. degree in the two years allotted for his study.

PHILIP SAATY
REQUEST FOR STUDY
66/58

VOTED, To approve the request of the Iraq Section for Philip Saaty to work on his Master's degree in Chemistry, the university to be named as soon as proper arrangements can be worked out. This is with the understanding that he will return to the Baghdad school.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned for the day at 3:45 p.m. Prayer was offered by C. V. Brauer.

OPENING

The committee reconvened at 8:00 a.m., March 3, and prayer was offered by D. L. Chappell.

GENERAL CONFERENCE
REPORTS
EDUCATIONAL,
MEDICAL AND PR
66/59

VOTED, That the reports at the General Conference pre-sessions of the departments listed below be given by the individuals named.

Educational	-	R. A. Wilcox
Medical	-	D. C. Ludington, M.D.
Public Relations	-	Robert Darnell

ITINERARIES
66/60

VOTED, To approve the following itineraries:

D. L. Chappell

July 5-12	Jordan	With colporteurs
July 13	Damascus	" "
July 14-17	North Syria	" "
July 26-Aug. 4	Iran	" "
August 5-8	Iraq	Colporteur & S.S. work
August 12-16	Cyprus	With student colporteurs
Dec. 8-19	Egypt	Pub. and S. S. promotion

H. C. Lamp, M.D.

June 12-22	Iran	Camp meeting
June 26-Aug. 22	Tehran Cent.	Evangelistic Series
September	Cyprus	Five-Day Plan
	Jerusalem	" " "
	Benghazi	" " "
	Upper Egypt	" " "
October	Beirut	Evangelistic series

MIDDLE EAST
COLLEGE REQUEST
FOR LEIF JENSEN
66/61

VOTED, To pass on to the Lebanon Section the request of Middle East College for the services of Leif Jensen as a physical education teacher in the 1966-67 school year for two periods a week.

MIDDLE EAST
COLLEGE CALL FOR
GEORGE A. KHOURY
66/62

VOTED, To pass on to the Lebanon Section the call of Middle East College for George A. Khoury, a 1966 B. A. graduate in Business from Middle East College, to be the college cashier as of July 1, 1966 and for the 1966-67 school year.

NORMA ABDEL NOUR
STATUS, COUNSEL
66/63

VOTED, To refer the case of Norma Abdel Nour to the General Conference for counsel and guidance concerning her marriage status.

ARABIC HYMNBOOK
COMMITTEE
66/64

VOTED, To reactivate the subject of the Arabic Hymnbook, that a committee composed of the following members be chosen to study the possibilities of making this subject a reality, and that they bring a report at the time of the year-end meeting.

K. L. Vine, Chairman
R. E. Anderson
Ellen Ghazal
Maurice Katrib
Manoug Nazirian

RECESS

After prayer by Behnam Arshat the committee recessed at 10:05 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., when it reconvened and the opening prayer was offered by Anees Haddad.

LOTFY ABADIR
SERVICE RECORD
66/65

VOTED, To concur with the entries on Lotfy Abadir's service record as recorded, that he has a total of 9 years service through 1965.

WORKER IN-SERVICE
POLICY AMENDMENT
66/66

VOTED, To insert the following in the Worker In-Service Training Policy, on page 101, Section 8, paragraph a, of the Middle East Division Working Policy:

"When a worker takes advantage of this policy and completes his study program the sending organization has priority for his services, and that he follow the guidance and counsel of his controlling committee."

INCOME TAX POLICY
66/67

VOTED, That in countries where the worker is required to pay income tax, if funds are available and the budget is adequate, the employing organization be allowed to share this income tax expense up to a maximum of 75 per cent, upon the clearance of this request by the Division Committee.

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ADVANCED STUDY BY
WORKERS OF MIDDLE
EAST DIVISION
66/68

VOTED, To adopt the following policy for Advanced Study by Workers of the Middle East Division. This will replace the former policy for Advanced Study by Workers of Middle East College (Action 64/128).

1. Candidates for graduate study from the territory of the Middle East Division shall be recommended to the Middle East Division Committee by the worker's controlling committee or board.

2. The worker from any organization who has been approved by the Middle East Division Committee to benefit from the provisions of this policy shall enter into a written agreement covering the terms of leave, which shall include the following:

a. Date leave of absence begins.

b. Agreement of worker to return for work to his former field of labor.

c. Agreement upon a course of study with the understanding that no changes shall be made unless authorized by the controlling committee or board and approved by the Division Committee. The worker shall further agree to instruct the institution in which he is studying to furnish the secretary of the Middle East Division a report of his grades at the completion of each term.

d. In case a worker receives grades that make it impossible for him to be granted the Master of Arts degree in the allotted time, he agrees to abide by any decision of his controlling committee or board, including returning to the Middle East Division immediately.

e. Financial arrangements.

3. Leave shall be limited to a period of time sufficient for the worker to receive the Master of Arts degree, not to exceed two semesters and two summers.

4. This plan shall be applied only for study in a Seventh-day Adventist college or university except when the course of study approved by the controlling committee or board is not offered in a denominational institution.

5. Before leaving his homeland (or place of labor) the worker shall have been accepted in a school and for a course of study, both of which have been approved by the controlling committee or board.

Advanced Study Policy -- Continued

6. The following financial provisions shall apply:

a. The Middle East Division shall pay round-trip travel expense for the worker, his wife, and dependent children, from place of labor to the destination authorized by the Division. Travel shall be by economy class air transportation. (Travel expenses shall include tickets, documentation, immunications, incidental travel expense, travel accident and personal effects floater insurance, handling charges on hand baggage.)

b. The sending organization shall pay the following expenses:

(1) A living allowance of up to 75 per cent of the maximum ordained minister's salary rate in the country where studying beginning the date of departure from Division territory until date of return.

(2) Rent as may be arranged (for a single worker, not to exceed \$65.00 per month)

(3) Tuition for authorized course of study.

(4) Registration, library, and graduation fees.

(5) Medical allowance.

(6) An allowance of 25 per cent of the tuition for children in a Seventh-day Adventist church school outside of the Division.

c. The worker shall be responsible for the cost of textbooks.

d. The sending organization may pay the expense of tuition for a course of study for the wife if recommended by the controlling committee or board and approved by the Division Committee.

3. When the worker returns to the Middle East Division he shall be granted a freight allowance on goods actually shipped of 1,000 pounds to port of entry (500 pounds for a single worker), this to include cost of packing and insurance but not customs duties.

7. The entire sum expended shall be advanced on the worker's personal account and shall be amortized at a rate of 20 per cent for each corresponding and equal period of service. For example, the worker shall subsequently serve the organization five months for each month of leave of absence for graduate study. In case a call is placed for the beneficiary before the allowance for leave of absence is amortized, the amount uncared for shall be assumed by the calling organization, or in the event of appointment outside his home Division, by the calling Division.

Advanced Study Policy -- Continued

8. At the time when a worker who has been on study leave returns to his field of labor, the controlling committee or board and the worker shall come to a written and itemized understanding regarding the total amount to be amortized.

Agreement for Beneficiary of Advanced Study Policy

Whereas I, (name), have accepted leave of absence from the Middle East Division under the provisions of the Policy for Advanced Study for Workers of the Middle East Division, I willingly agree:

1. That I will return to the Middle East Division for duty in my former field of labor as shall be assigned by the controlling committee or board.
2. That, after the graduation exercises in which I shall receive my Master's degree, I will return to my former field of labor within a period of time as shall be designated by the controlling committee or board.
3. That I will study only at (name of college or university) as authorized by the controlling committee or board unless I am directed by the committee to attend another university or college.
4. That I will study in the field of (name of field of study) and I will not change my course of study unless authorized to do so by the controlling committee or board. I will instruct the registrar's office to furnish a copy of my grades at the close of each term to the secretary of the Middle East Division.
5. That in case I shall receive grades that make it impossible for me to be granted a Master of Arts degree in the allotted time, I agree to abide by any decision of the controlling committee or board, including returning to the Middle East Division immediately.
6. That the entire sum of money expended for my graduate study and leave of absence, including transportation, tuition, living allowance, and other expenses, shall be advanced on my personal account and I understand that the controlling committee or board will amortize this amount at a rate of 20 per cent for each period of service in the organization equal to the period of time that I shall spend in graduate study under the policy.
7. That during this leave of absence for graduate study I will be responsible to the controlling committee or board in the same way as during the time of my regular employment in the organization.

Advanced Study Policy--Continued

I have read the attached policy and I understand and accept the privileges, obligations, and limitations stated therein as binding upon myself, although such may not be specifically mentioned in this agreement. Further, I understand that my leave of absence begins _____.

Date _____ Signature _____

STELLA DRACOUDES
& MOSES ELMADJIAN
SUSTENTATION
PROVISIONS
66/69

WHEREAS, Stella Dracoudes and Moses Elmadjian became workers at a rather older than usual age, it was

VOTED, That in regard to the sustentation privilege for Stella Dracoudes and Moses Elmadjian, that they come under the provision of the Sustentation Policy for workers employed who are beyond the age of 35.

RECESS

The committee recessed at 12:30 Prayer was offered by Behnam Arshat. At 3:45 p.m. the committee reconvened and prayer was offered by V. A. Fenn.

BEHNAME ARSHAT
REQUEST FOR STUDY
66/70

VOTED, To request the General Conference to consider helping Behnam Arshat with his medical problem as follows:

Behnam Arshat has been authorized to attend Middle East College for a 2-year period to finish the requirements for his Bachelor's degree. Since his wife needs psychiatry treatment that is not available in the Middle East, we recommend that he study in the U. S. while his wife undergoes treatment at the Hinsdale Sanitarium. It is understood that denominational funds will not be used to provide the transportation for the family to the U. S., but once medical treatment has begun, the Medical Expense Policy will apply toward medical expenses. The Division would apply the policy provided for in the undergraduate study program for Brother Arshat's school expenses.

QUADRENNIAL COUNCIL
PLANS
66/71

VOTED, To approve the following preliminary plans for the quadrennial council:

Presession Dates: October 31 to November 6
(Ministerial Institute)

Quadrennial Council Dates: November 8-19
(Revision of Action 65/260)

Worker Representatives: 46

Lay Worker Representatives: 5

Housing Committee:

R. W. Wilmot, Chairman

George Ghazal

Mrs. Chafic Srour

Program Committee:

Officers

K. L. Vine

Roger Coon

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TURKEY SECTION
ACTING PRESIDENT
AND TREASURER

66/72

VOTED, That Manuk Benzatyan be acting president and treasurer of the Turkey Section while L. C. Miller is on furlough.

MILLION DOLLAR
OFFERING GOAL

66/73

VOTED, To recommend that our goal for the Million Dollar Offering be reset at \$15,000 (See Action 65/267)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Prayer was offered by V. A. Fenn.

R. A. Wilcox, Chairman

R. W. Wilmot, Acting Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION COMMITTEE MEETINGCairo, Egypt, U. A. R. March 16, 19744:50 P. M.PRESENTR. A. Wilcox, R. W. Wilmot, Behnam Arshat, Hilal Dose,
A. A. Haddad.OPENING

Prayer was offered by Hilal Dose.

HILAL DOSE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
66/74

The chairman made a few remarks concerning the work in Egypt at the present time. A copy of this report is on file in his office. At this time Elder Hilal Dose, president of the Egypt Section, expressed his appreciation for the words spoken by the chairman and said that for some time he has been thinking of requesting to be relieved of his administrative duties so he could devote his full time to pastoral work. He then presented his resignation as president of the Egypt Section. It was

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Elder Hilal Dose as president of the Egypt Section and express to him our deep appreciation for his dedicated service in the leadership of this field.

For the good of all concerned it is recommended that Elder Dose accept the work opportunities outside of Egypt that will be provided for him as soon as they can be worked out.

HABIB GHALI
ACTING PRESIDENT
EGYPT SECTION
66/75

VOTED, To appoint Habib Ghali as the acting president of the Egypt Section.

CALL FOR
HELIOPOLIS CHURCH
PASTOR
66/76

VOTED, To re-emphasize to the General Conference the urgency of finding an overseas pastor for the Heliopolis church and to inform them that this call requires a person capable of administrative responsibilities in the Section.

RECOMMENDATION TO
EGYPT SECTION FOR
HILAL DOSE
66/77

VOTED, To recommend to the Egypt Section that Elder Hilal Dose continue to be the director of the Cairo Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Prayer was offered by V. A. Fenn.

R. A. Wilcox, Chairman

R. W. Wilmot, Acting Secretary