

## MIDDLE EAST DIVISION COMMITTEE

July 13, 1967, 5:00 P. M.

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

F. C. Webster, R. E. Anderson, H. C. Lamp, R. C. Mills, Chafic Srour, R. L. Jacobs

## OTHERS PRESENT:

By Invitation: Salim Japas, George Khoury, Ignatius Yacoub, George Yared

## DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

Prayer was offered by George Khoury.

67/129 DR. ARLEN ARZOO--CALL TO IRAN

Arlen Arzoo, M.D., of Iran, took his medical course in Loma Linda and served for a period of time in the Arak, Iran, Adventist Hospital. Later the hospital was closed and Dr. Arzoo has since been practicing in the United States where he is now a citizen, and on sustentation. In connection with a recent visit to Iran, Dr. Arzoo saw the great need for the services of an Adventist doctor to lead out in our physiotherapy clinic and give temperance lectures and do health and gospel evangelism. Since Dr. Arzoo is licensed to practice in Iran, has relatively good health, and has offered to serve without salary, and since it is felt that he could make a strong contribution to the work in Iran, it was

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference with our recommendation the request of the Iran Section that Dr. Arlen Arzoo connect with the Iran Section for medical missionary work, with the understanding that the Division will continue to pay him his sustentation allowance on the present basis and that he be granted transportation expenses to Iran as may be mutually agreeable to him and the Middle East Division.

67/130 BENGAZI HOSPITAL, DIRECTOR OF NURSES--CALL

Evangeline G. Voth has served as superintendent of nurses in the Benghazi Hospital in Libya since February 1962. Previously she was director of nurses in the Dar Es-Salaam Hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, from 1954 until it was closed in 1958. In view of the fact that D. C. Ludington, M.D., reports she has indicated to him she will be requesting a permanent return at the end of her present term in May 1968, and considering that it would be desirable for the new director of nurses to be present at the time of the opening of the new hospital, it was

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the request of the Benghazi Hospital for a director of nurses, it being understood that she is to come forward as soon as possible to lead out in the organization of the new hospital.

July 13, 1967

67/131 GHASSAN DEEB--EMPLOYMENT

VOTED, To release Ghassan Deeb, student at Middle East College, from his call to the Syrian Section (MED 66/324), and authorize the Lebanon Section to employ him as teacher in the Museitbeh school.

67/132 NAJEEB AYOUB--EMPLOYMENT

VOTED, To approve the employment of Najeeb Ayoub, a 1967 graduate of Middle East College, by the Jordan Section as cashier and accountant.

67/133 GEORGE A. KHOURY--EMPLOYMENT

George A. Khoury has been working at the Benghazi Hospital since October 1966. For personal reasons he has now returned to Lebanon and since his services are needed in Middle East College, and upon the consent of Benghazi Hospital, it was

VOTED, To authorize Middle East College to employ George A. Khoury as of July 15, 1967.

67/134 CAMILLE ISSA--EMPLOYMENT

VOTED, To approve the request of the Lebanon Section to employ Camille Issa, a student in Middle East College, as teacher in the Museitbeh school.

67/135 ITINERARY--MANOUG NAZIRIAN

VOTED, To approve the following itinerary for Manoug Nazirian:

Iran, Camp meeting	August 9 - 19, 1967
Lebanon, M.V. camp	August 17 - Sept. 10, 1967

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Closing prayer by Ignatius Yacoub.

F. C. Webster, Chairman

R. L. Jacobs, Secretary

## MIDDLE EAST DIVISION MIDYEAR COMMITTEE

July 26, 1967, 8:00 A. M.

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

F. C. Webster, R. E. Anderson, W. J. Clemons, Harold L. Gray, J. S. Jones, Maurice Katrib, H. C. Lamp, D. C. Ludington, Salim Majeed, L. C. Miller, R. C. Mills, Manoug Nazirian, Chafic Srour, R. W. Wilmot, R. L. Jacobs

## OTHERS PRESENT:

From the General Conference: Theodore Carcich, Andrew Fearing

By Invitation: Mousa Azar, Hugh Cowles, George Ghazal, Salim Japas, George Khoury, Ignatius Yacoub, George Yared

## DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

Prayer by L. C. Miller.

The morning devotional was presented by Theodore Carcich, vice-president of the General Conference. He told of the growing circle of prayer as our people in Washington and around the world are praying for each other, and gave us the assurance that the folk back home will not let us down. Psalm 27 was used as a basis of an inspiring study showing how that as trouble increases in the earth God will care for His people and His work will go forward. We live in a time of agitation. The financial systems of the world are based on a very frail structure today. Wars and rumors of wars are everywhere and a spirit of evil has taken charge of people. Still God is a refuge and a rock and this work will go forward and be carried to every country in the Middle East and in all the world. He told of a recent trip with Elder W. R. Beach in which presentations were made to government authorities showing that the Adventist Church is not a projection of any one country, but represents the people of each country individually. In lands that have been long closed to the message, hundreds and thousands are being won to the truth. He emphasized the fact that this is our hour of opportunity and it will never come again. If we fail to take advantage of it, we will be held responsible.

He closed his study with the following quotation from Selected Messages, Vol. 1, pp. 190, 191: "The third angel's message is swelling into a loud cry, and you must not feel at liberty to neglect the present duty, and still entertain the idea that at some future time you will be the recipients of great blessing, when without any effort on your part a wonderful revival will take place. Today you are to give yourselves to God, that He may make of you vessels unto honor, and meet for His service. Today you are to give yourself to God, that you may be emptied of self, emptied of envy, jealousy, evil surmising, strife, everything that shall be dishonoring to God. Today you are to have your vessel purified that it may be ready for the heavenly dew, ready for the showers of the latter rain; for the latter rain will come, and the blessing of

God will fill every soul that is purified from every defilement. It is our work today to yield our souls to Christ, that we may be fitted for the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord--fitted for the baptism of the Holy Spirit."

Closing prayers by George Nehme, Ignatius Yacoub, Theodore Carcich.

The opening song was No. 447, "Hark! the Voice of Jesus Calling." The last song was No. 604, "Lord, for Tomorrow and Its Needs."

Elder Webster welcomed Elders Theodore Carcich and Andrew Fearing and expressed appreciation for the visit of these men from the General Conference. He then introduced Elders Hugh Cowles, L. C. Miller, Manoug Nazirian, Mousa Azar, and Harold L. Gray, who for the first time are with us for a plenary session. Regret was expressed because Vigain Marcarian and Habib Ghali had been unable to come to this meeting. A cable from Brother Ghali stating "Praying God bless meetings," was read.

The following reports were presented:

A report was given of the recent Turkey earthquake by L. C. Miller, and thankfulness was expressed that none of our members had lost his life, although Brother Zihni and his family just left their hotel room some five minutes before a chimney fell and went through the room they were occupying.

Mousa Azar reported on Jordan and appreciation was expressed for the aid that has already been given by the college, the press and Germany, as well as that offered by the Northern European Division and that which is on the way valued at \$103,500.00 from the General Conference.

Maurice Katrib and Salim Majeed reported on the work in Syria and Iraq respectively, and Dr. Ludington gave a most encouraging report of prospects for Benghazi. Elder Chafic Srour told of his recent trip to Egypt and of the faithfulness of those who have recently accepted the truth in that land.

#### 67/136 MIDDLE EAST UNION--APPRECIATION

At the time of the Middle East crisis a Middle East Union was set up to operate during such time as contact could not be made with the Middle East Division. (See MED 67/104, June 6, 1967) The personnel of this organization carried forward the work in a strong way during the emergency, doing welfare work in Jordan and Syria and giving careful leadership to all church activities. Now with the Division functioning normally it is felt that this Union organization can still serve a useful function by representing the Division in certain critical areas. It was

VOTED, To express appreciation to the personnel of the Middle East Union for their consecrated leadership during the absence of the personnel of the Division, and

To authorize this organization to continue on a standby basis to carry on such activities as may be designated to it by the officers or the committee of the Division.

67/137 DAILY PROGRAM

VOTED, To approve the daily program as follows:

6:45 - 7:15	Breakfast
7:30 - 8:15	Devotional
8:30 - 12:15	Committee
12:30	Dinner
2:00 - 5:30	Committee
6:00	Supper

67/138 STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve the appointment of the following subcommittees:

Constitution & Bylaws

R. C. Mills, Chairman  
Hugh Cowles, Secretary  
Theodore Carcich  
George Ghazal  
R. L. Jacobs  
F. C. Webster  
R. W. Wilmot  
George Yared

Distribution of Labor  
and Nominations

F. C. Webster, Chairman  
R. L. Jacobs, Secretary  
Theodore Carcich  
W. J. Clemons  
Andrew Fearing  
H. C. Lamp  
D. C. Ludington  
Salim Majeed  
R. C. Mills  
Ignatius Yacoub

Credentials & Licenses

L. C. Miller, Chairman  
Chafic Srour, Secretary  
Mousa Azar  
Theodore Carcich  
Andrew Fearing  
R. L. Jacobs  
Salim Japas  
J. S. Jones  
Maurice Katrib  
George Khoury  
R. C. Mills  
Manoug Nazirian  
F. C. Webster

Finance

R. C. Mills, Chairman  
R. W. Wilmot, Secretary  
R. E. Anderson  
Theodore Carcich  
Andrew Fearing  
George Ghazal  
Harold L. Gray  
R. L. Jacobs  
F. C. Webster  
George Yared

67/139 SABBATH SCHOOL OVERFLOW OFFERING--PROJECTS

VOTED, To designate the following projects to receive benefit from the Thirteenth Sabbath School Offering for the fourth quarter of 1968:

Auditorium-Gymnasium, Middle East College	50%
Orphanage, Amman, Jordan	15%
Evangelistic & Educational Complex, Benghazi, Libya	35%

67/140 SCHOLARSHIP BONUS--FOREIGN STUDENTS

Due to political problems, students cannot always return to their home field to canvass during the summer. When such students colporteur in another Section, with the approval of both fields concerned and of the Division committee, it was

VOTED, That the bonus be shared as follows:

10% Home Section
10% Book & Periodical House of field where canvassing is done
20% Middle East Press
50% Middle East Division
10% Middle East College

67/141 EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To revise the policy on Employment of Workers (MED Working Policy 124) by substituting the following in place of the fourth paragraph:

"Special care should be used in bringing individuals into service who have already reached the age of 40 years. In the case of those who enter the employ of denominational organizations at the age of 41 years to 50 years inclusive, after May 1, 1955, on becoming eligible for benefits of the Sustentation Fund, the base rate shall be reduced 2% in the case of those employed at age 41, 4% for those entering denominational employ at age 42, etc., to age 50 as per the following schedule:

"Age 41	Sustentation Base Reduced by	2%
Age 42	" " "	4%
Age 43	" " "	6%
Age 44	" " "	8%
Age 45	" " "	10%
Age 46	" " "	12%
Age 47	" " "	14%
Age 48	" " "	16%
Age 49	" " "	18%
Age 50	" " "	20% "

67/142 SUSTENTATION RATES--CALCULATION FORMULA REVISION

VOTED, To amend the policy Sustentation Rates (W P 139) by deleting paragraphs 35 and 37 and inserting the following:

"35. a. That sustentation rates be directly related to the denominational Wage Scale and that the allowance per year of service be uniform from the minimum rate for fifteen years of service to the maximum rate for forty years of service.

"b. That beginning with the next wage adjustment after June 30, 1967, the monthly family rate of sustentation for fifteen years of service be set at 24% of the 100% salary level, and that for each additional year of service from fifteen to forty there be added 1.6% of the 100% salary level, making a maximum of 64% of the 100% salary level for forty or more years of service.

"c. The monthly single rate of sustentation shall be three-fourths of the monthly family rate (18% of the 100% level for fifteen years of service and 1.2% of the 100% salary level for each additional year of service from fifteen to forty), making a maximum of 48% of the 100% salary level for forty or more years of service." It was further

VOTED, That in applying the above formula for the computation of sustentation rates, no existing sustentation rates be reduced. (As the 100% salary level is adjusted upward, minimum sustentation rates will eventually reach the existing minimums.)

67/143 SUBSIDIES TO SUSTENTATION BENEFICIARIES--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Sustentation Policy (W P 142) paragraph 46 under "Subsidies" by substituting a new paragraph instead of part 2, to read as follows:

"Denominational organizations employing beneficiaries who are over sixty-five years of age and who may be regarded as permanent beneficiaries, may remunerate such beneficiaries for their work at rates and under conditions which may be mutually agreed upon, the total remuneration including sustentation not to exceed the full wage being currently paid for the class of work in which the beneficiary was last employed prior to going on sustentation, it being understood that there will be no addition to the service record."

67/144 EQUIPMENT & BOOK ALLOWANCE POLICY--REVISION

In revising the policy entitled Book and Magazine Allowance found on page 101 of the MED Working Policy, the title was accidentally changed and a section was omitted. It was therefore

VOTED, To amend action 66/281 to read as follows:

"Division, Section and institutional officers and heads of departments, departmental secretaries and evangelistic field workers may submit paid bills for purchases of professional books and equipment to be used in their work for which subsidy will be allowed on the following basis: The employing organization will reimburse the worker in full for the first LL 50.00 or its equivalent on such purchases and will share an additional LL 100.00 expense on such purchases with the worker, affording a total possible yearly subsidy of LL 100.00. On approval of controlling committees and boards other personnel may receive the benefits of this policy, when it is considered necessary to their professional development.

"In addition, special professional journals and membership fees may be considered reportable expense when approved by the controlling boards.

"All other workers may receive an annual book and/or journal allowance of LL 25.00 or its equivalent upon presentation of appropriate invoices or receipts."

Benefits under this policy do not apply to books or journals subsidized under other policies.

This policy supersedes those entitled Professional Membership Fees and Journal Allowance and Book and Magazine Allowance (W P 101, 102).

67/145 EDUCATIONAL ALLOWANCE, CHILDREN OF WORKERS POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the policy Educational Allowance, Children of Workers, Working Policy page 108, by substituting, in place of paragraph 3, the following:

"The allowance shall be applicable to unmarried dependent children up to the age of 24, with the understanding that the allowance will be paid up to four years of college."

Adjourned at 12:15 p. m. with prayer by J. S. Jones.

The committee reconvened at 2:00 p.m. Prayer was offered by Harold L. Gray.

67/146 MISSIONS QUARTERLY--PREPARATION

VOTED, That the following individuals be requested to prepare material for the promotion of the Thirteenth Sabbath Mission offering for the fourth quarter of 1968:

Articles for the Senior Missions Quarterly:

Mousa Azar	D. C. Ludington
Manuk Benzatyan	S. J. Schwantes
D. L. Chappell	K. L. Vine
Maurice Katrib	F. C. Webster
Joseph Khoury	



Articles for the Junior Missions Quarterly:

Mrs. Raymond Bitar	Mrs. Hanna Malaka
Miss Mary Ghazal	Mrs. R. C. Mills
Mrs. Edmond Haddad	J. S. Russell
Miss Anoosh Keshishzade	Mrs. J. S. Russell
Mrs. George Khoury	Miss Majeeda Shamoon
H. C. Lamp	Mrs. Said Tooma
Mrs. Salim Majeed	

Map of Middle East Division territory:

Middle East Press

Pictures for the front cover of the Senior and Junior Missions  
Quarterlies:

R. C. Mills

Two tape recordings, 7½ minutes each:

R. C. Mills

The deadline for having this material in the Division office  
is August 31, 1967.

67/147 MEDICAL POLICY--CLARIFICATION

VOTED, To amend the Medical Expense Policy (W P 100) by  
substituting the following in place of paragraph 11:

"Every regular full-time worker shall have a physical exami-  
nation annually, the expense of which may be reported in full. The  
following items may be included:

- a. Physical Examination
- b. Laboratory Tests:
  - Urinalysis
  - Blood count
  - Cholesterol
  - Stool examination
  - Papanicolaou test

"Where chest x-rays, E.K.G., or other tests are indicated, the  
cost of these tests shall be reportable on the regular medical expense  
plan.

"Medical examinations for the wife and dependent children are  
reportable as regular medical expense in harmony with the policy."

67/148 HOME OWNER'S SUBSIDY POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Home Owner's Subsidy policy (W P 96) by substituting the following:

"When a worker who is the head of a family, after counsel with and by the consent of his employing organization, owns, purchases, or builds a home for his own occupancy in the locality where he is assigned to work, he may be granted a home owner's allowance. The amount of this allowance will be established by the employing organization, taking into consideration the rental ceiling established for the area, property values, building costs, taxes, et cetera, as well as the general principle that a denominational worker is ordinarily not obliged to pay as rent, exclusive of furnishings, heat, gas, light, and water, more than 10 per cent of his salary on the current wage scale.

"The allowance shall ordinarily be granted on a monthly basis but may be granted in advance up to a year on approval of the controlling committee."

67/149 AUTOMOBILE POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Automobile Policy (W P 104, 105) 1) by substituting the following in place of paragraph 3:

"A monthly depreciation rate of LL 125.00 or its equivalent shall be applicable in all organizations of the Middle East Division."

2) by deleting paragraph 8, and renumbering the following paragraphs 8, 9, and 10, respectively.

3) and by substituting the following in place of the new paragraph 10, (formerly par. 11):

"The private use of a mission-owned vehicle is to be discouraged. If on occasion it should be used by a worker for private use, he will pay the organization by the kilometer at double the regular kilometer rate."

This action is effective as of July 1, 1967.

67/150 ADVANCED STUDY POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Advanced Study by Workers policy (W P 116-118) by adding the following section which shall be numbered 6, e:

"Workers who purchase and operate a car while on study leave may be granted automobile depreciation in harmony with the policy for authorized cars in the area in which he is studying, it being understood that on his request this fund may be set up in the Division treasury office to be used for the purchase of a car when he returns to the field."

The present paragraph 6, e will then be numbered 6,f.

67/151 RENT SUBSIDY AND UTILITY ALLOWANCES POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Rent Policy (WP 95) by adding the following, which shall be paragraph number 11:

"11. Rent allowance or home owner's subsidy shall be granted only on that portion of the house occupied by the worker and his dependent family."

67/152 FURLOUGH POLICY

VOTED, That the following furlough policy shall apply to workers with homelands in one area of the Division territory and laboring in another:

1. Homeland areas, as referred to in this policy, shall be:
  - a. The area comprising Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Kuwait.
  - b. The area comprising Muscat, Oman, Aden, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia.
  - c. The area of each denominational section within the Division other than those named in "a" and "b" above.
2. To be eligible for a furlough, the worker must be a citizen of a country other than that in which he is laboring, and the travel allowance granted for the furlough is the cost of travel to his homeland of which he is a citizen.
3. A worker officially called and transferred from one homeland area to another shall be allowed a furlough of one month after two consecutive years of service outside his own homeland area. No vacation time is allowed in the year the furlough is taken.
4. An unmarried worker officially called and transferred from the homeland area in which his/her parents reside to another area shall be allowed a furlough of one month after two consecutive years of service outside the homeland area of his/her parents. No vacation time is allowed in the year the furlough is taken.
5. Arrangements for furloughs are to be approved by both the local committee or board and the Division committee.
6. Salary is to be paid a furloughing worker during the time of furlough in the currency of and at the same rate paid other workers in his category in the country of furlough.
7. The cost of economy air travel by the most direct route and bus fare beyond airports, shall be paid for the worker and the unmarried, dependent members of his immediate family accompanying him, from the place of labor to the home of parents (of both husband and wife if applicable) residing in a homeland area other than that in which the worker is laboring. Should the worker elect to travel by another means or route, an allowance equal to the direct economy air and bus fares may be made.

8. Workers are granted furloughs with the understanding that they agree to return for a further term of service in the field away from their homeland areas. A written request for furlough stating this agreement is to be lodged with the secretary of the governing board or committee before a furlough is authorized.

9. The reportable travel expense of workers on furlough is shared equally by the employing organization and the Middle East Division. The salary during furlough is the expense of the employing organization.

10. The transportation allowance is for travel that is actually undertaken away from the country of employment and is for the worker and his dependent family. It is not accumulative, and if not taken in the year it is due, the worker will be granted his regular vacation and is eligible to take the furlough the following year.

This supersedes the furlough policy found on page 61 of the MED Working Policy.

67/153 VACATION POLICY--REVISION

VOTED, To amend the Vacation policy (WP 58, 59) by substituting the following under "Exceptions":

"In some areas climatic conditions prevail that are adverse to the health and well being of the worker. It is often necessary to travel long distances in order to reach an area of moderate climate. In view of these facts, the following exceptions to the Vacation policy are granted:

"1. Workers in Aden, Iraq, Khuzistan, Kuwait, and Sudan will receive a basic vacation of three weeks (21 days) per year, (28 days for those normally qualifying for three weeks).

"2. Workers whose homeland is outside the Division territory will be granted each second year an allowance equivalent to the cost of round trip economy air fare, or surface transportation when air travel is not necessary as indicated by the controlling committee, to destinations as indicated below:

<u>Location of worker</u>	<u>Vacation destination</u>
Libya	Athens
Cyprus, Egypt, Iraq,	Beirut
Kuwait, Sudan, Turkey	"
Khuzistan	Tehran

"3. Conditions and time for such vacations shall correspond to those for workers whose homeland is in the Middle East Division as given in the Furlough policy, wherever applicable. The allowance is granted only for travel that is actually undertaken away from the country of employment and is for the worker and his dependent family. It is not accumulative, and if not received in the year it is due, he may be eligible for it the following year in lieu of his regular vacation."

67/154 BEHNAM ARSHAT--FUTURE

VOTED, To authorize Behnam Arshat to continue his study program in Andrews University for the 1967-68 school year.

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION MIDYEAR COMMITTEE

July 27, 1967, 7:30 A. M.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

The opening hymn, "Not I, but Christ," was followed with prayer by George Khoury.

Elder Andrew Fearing, associate Ministerial secretary of the General Conference, presented the devotional study based on the story of Nehemiah, a very rich man, but at the same time humble and consecrated. Even as he stood before the king he prayed, and God worked miracles in leading him in his work. He was one who was not interested in self so much as in God's work and the welfare of His people. So instead of remaining at his post in comfort and luxury, he made the long trip to Jerusalem. Once there, he took time for prayer and meditation and study of the problems before beginning his work. Then, as he gathered together the elders who were completely discouraged, he presented the plan in such a way and with such courage that they rose up as one man and said, "Let us build."

Today we stand in the world as Nehemiah did in his. We also have a wall to build--a great reform--and people are looking to us for courage and for the solution to their problems. Satan is doing everything possible to turn us from our work. He does not care how many wheels we turn so long as we do not accomplish that one thing for which we are called--winning souls. He is happy if we waste time on discussion of little and unimportant things, if we occupy ourselves with petty differences, or even in following down malignant and evil reports about us. Nehemiah was even urged to hide himself in the temple, and we will be urged to tie ourselves up in useless activities connected with the church. God is just as willing to accomplish the task through us as He was through Nehemiah. In the kingdom of God we will turn one to the other and say, "So was the wall built."

After joining in singing, "Into My Heart, Lord Jesus, Come into my heart today," prayer was offered by Salim Japas and Hugh Cowles.

Elder Webster called attention to the 51,755 persons in our Division territory to each Seventh-day Adventist and also to the goal of tripling our membership during this quadrennium. Baptisms for the first quarter of 1967 totaled 62, the highest in the history of the Middle East Division.

67/155 JOHN WINDER--PLANS

John Winder is originally from the Sudan but recently has been living in Uganda where he has studied in our training school. A friend in America has offered to pay the expense of his studies in Middle East College. It was

VOTED, To grant to John Winder the expense of travel from Uganda to Beirut, it being understood that he will secure legal documents before proceeding and that he will prepare to return to the Sudan on graduation.

67/156 STUDENT MISSIONARY--PROJECTS

VOTED, To cooperate with the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department, suggesting the following projects in which student missionaries might serve acceptably in the Middle East Division:

Center Programs	Benghazi Hospital - nursing student
Vacation Bible Schools	Voice of Youth evangelistic efforts
MV Camps	Middle East College - Special English

67/157 THE ADVENTIST HEALTH SERVICE

The medical and temperance activities of the church have clearly demonstrated their ability to break down prejudice, win friends, and encourage non-members to have confidence in Seventh-day Adventists and their better way of life as taught in their doctrine of healthful living. However, in order to make use of the great evangelistic potential afforded by these benefits, there is a need for a well-organized program of follow-up of our health and temperance activities so that specific soul-winning encounters can be made that will result in an enlargement of the church of God here in the Middle East. Therefore, it is

VOTED, That the Middle East Division establish an organizational entity to be known as "The Adventist Health Service," and that the medical secretary of the Division be the director to coordinate its activities.

The objectives and functions of the Adventist Health Service will be:

1. To acquaint the people of the Middle East with Seventh-day Adventists through its multi-faceted health services such as the Call to Health magazine, the health correspondence course, the Five-day Plan to Stop Smoking and other temperance activities, health books sold by colporteurs, and the clinical facilities offered by the Benghazi Hospital and our physiotherapy clinics. Further, the organization will effectively identify Seventh-day Adventists as a humanitarian organization with a public-service orientation.

2. To facilitate evangelistic follow-up by enrolling interested persons as card-carrying members of the Adventist Health Service, by acquainting them with the various health services available to them, by maintaining continuing contact with each member by means of a regularly published health bulletin and newsletter, and by keeping a master card file on each member which will contain the record of all activities he has participated in and completed, along with his correspondence (letters of inquiry and comment, and financial contributions, etc.); thus an individual dossier is built up on each member which can subsequently be made available to any department which desires the information for the further promotion of its activities, and to the local Sections where the information can be used as the basis for home visitation that can develop into soul-winning contacts and personal spiritual decisions.

The Adventist Health Service will in no way interfere with the direction and operation of the various health and temperance activities themselves which will remain under the jurisdiction of the respective departments now administering them, but will serve a vital function as a liaison agency serving each department and providing it with essential follow-up data.

67/158 INGATHERING MAGAZINE -- ANNUAL REPORT

In harmony with the recommendation of the Writers' Conference held in Nicosia, Cyprus, June 27-30, 1967, it was

VOTED, That in order to project a clearer picture of Seventh-day Adventists, the Middle East Division publish an annual report in the form of an Ingathering magazine.

67/159 GREEK LITERATURE COMMITTEE

VOTED, That the Division president be authorized to negotiate with the Southern European Division for the establishment of a joint Greek publishing committee with representatives from Greece and Cyprus to plan for Greek publications that would be mutually beneficial to both fields and to avoid duplication of effort in providing materials in Greek.

Adjourned at 11:00 a. m. Prayer was offered by George Ghazal.

The afternoon session followed the institutional board meetings, convening at 3:15 p.m. Prayer was offered in connection with the college board by Maurice Katrib.

67/160 MAGAZINE PROJECT

VOTED, To authorize the Division administration to lay plans and share in providing funds for 15,000 subscriptions to Hope and Call to Health magazines for free distribution in the Arabic fields of the Division territory.

67/161 FARSI MAGAZINE--STUDY PUBLICATION POSSIBILITY

VOTED, To request that Middle East Press study the possibility of publishing a magazine similar to Hope and Call to Health in the Farsi language.

The Distribution of Labor and Nominations Committee presented a partial report and the following actions were taken.

67/162 SALIM JAPAS -- DIVISION COMMITTEE MEMBER

VOTED, That Salim Japas be appointed a member of the Division Committee.

67/163 MANUK BENZATYAN--TURKEY SECTION PRESIDENT

VOTED, That Manuk Benzatyan be appointed president of the Turkey Section.

67/164 CHAFIC SROUR--LEBANON SECTION PRESIDENT

VOTED, That Chafic Srour be appointed president of the Lebanon Section.

67/165 ANTAR YACOUB--CALL TO BENGHAZI

VOTED, To recommend that the Benghazi Hospital place a call for the services of Antar Yacoub, presently in Egypt, to serve as accountant.

The Credentials and Licenses committee presented the following two recommendations which were approved as indicated.

67/166 HAROLD L. GRAY--MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS

VOTED, To grant Ministerial Credentials to Harold L. Gray.

67/167 GABRIEL KATRIB--ORDINATION REFERRED TO SYRIA SECTION

VOTED, To refer the ordination of Gabriel Katrib to the Syrian Section Committee.

67/168 EGYPT SECTION--EVANGELISM BUDGET REQUESTS

VOTED, To approve evangelism budgets for the Egypt Section as follows, the Division share to be cared for from the Evangelism Reserve Fund:  
(See attached form, p. 1457)

67/169 ORPHANAGE--AMMAN, JORDAN

VOTED, To approve in principle the establishment of an orphanage in Amman, Jordan, on the land now owned on the highway near the university. It is understood that when authorization has been secured from the government for the institution definite plans and budgets will be presented to the Division committee for approval.



EGYPT SECTION OF S. D. A.  
1967 Evangelistic Plans  
Summary

City	Evangelist	Time	Budget	Source of Fund		
				Local Church	Section	Division
Alexandria	F. Michael	May-July	310.000	10.000	150.000	150.000
Fayoum	N. Yacoub	Sep-Dec.	310.000	10.000	150.000	150.000
Sencuris	N. Yacoub	Sep-Dec.	105.000	5.000	50.000	50.000
Zewak	A. A. Messih	Oct-Dec.	100.000	5.000	45.000	50.000
Tahta	L. Magressy	Sep-Nov.	123.000	3.000	60.000	60.000
Sohag	A.A. Messih	Sep-Nov.	165.000	5.000	80.000	80.000
Akhmim	A.A. Messih	Sep-Nov.	93.000	3.000	45.000	45.000
Minia	N. Mosaad	Sep-Nov.	190.000	10.000	90.000	90.000
Abou Korkas	S. Khilla	Aug-Oct.	126.000	6.000	60.000	60.000
Mansoura	N. Boutros	Sep-Nov.	300.000	5.000	145.000	150.000
Tanta	F. Tawfiles	Aug-Sep.	208.000	10.000	98.000	100.00
Nekheila	Y. Ghali	Sep-Nov.	116.000	1.000	55.000	60.000
Assiut	F. Naguib	Sep-Nov.	245.000	15.000	115.000	115.000
Beni Sharaan	F. Naguib	Nov-Dec.	80.000	2.000	38.000	40.000
Tatalia	F. Naguib	Oct-Nov.	95.000	5.000	45.000	45.000
Beni Ady	F. Naguib	Sep-Oct.	92.000	2.000	45.000	45.000
Masraa	F. Naguib	Nov-Dec.	80.000	2.000	38.000	40.000
Beni Suef	D. Dose	Aug-Oct.	255.000	5.000	125.000	125.000
Beni Bakheet	D. Dose	Nov-Dec.	105.000	5.000	50.000	50.000
Total			3,098.000	109.000	1,484.000	1,505.000

67/170 TEACHERS' SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

At the time of the 1966 annual committee meeting a committee was appointed to study the matter of the summer employment of teachers (MED 66/279). In harmony with their report, it was

VOTED, That teachers' salaries for twelve months be divided by fourteen, this to be their monthly wage. Then during the two summer months those teachers who accept employment, a study program, or any other assignment designated by the Section committee, will receive double salary. It is understood that the employing organization is obligated to offer employment or other suitable activity to teachers willing to be so occupied, and in case the organization fails to provide such work or activity to teachers who request it, it shall give double salary to the teacher as if he had worked.

Example:

Normal Monthly Salary	200.00
Yearly "	2,400.00
$2,400.00 \div 14$	= 171.43
$171.43 \times 12$	= 2,057.14
	171.43
	<u>171.43</u>
	2,400.00

The above arrangement is to become effective at the beginning of the 1967-68 school year.

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION MIDYEAR COMMITTEE

July 28, 1967, 7:30 A. M.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

The opening song was No. 662, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes." Prayer was offered by Mousa Azar, and Dr. D. C. Ludington played a violin solo, "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling."

The title of the devotional message presented by Theodore Carcich, vice-president of the General Conference, was "Use What You Have." A lesson was drawn from 2 Kings 4 where is recorded the story of the widow and the oil. God's ways are always higher than our ways and our difficulties are never greater than God's provisions. Here was a penniless widow whose husband had been a worker for God. In her poverty and need she went to the prophet who asked her the question, "What hast thou in the house?" With only a pot of oil God worked in her behalf. As she and her sons cooperated she was able to pay her debt and live. Her family was saved.

So in God's work, little is much if God is in it. Back in 1844 a little group of farmers in Washington, New Hampshire, decided to take the gospel to all the world. They had so little with which to work and yet God blessed them and today a worldwide work is the result. James White, with a scythe, cut hay at  $87\frac{1}{2}$  cents an acre in order to start the publishing work. Last year sales from Adventist publishing houses amounted to sixty million dollars. The little hand press in Rochester was the forerunner of the great eight-color press operated today in the Review and Herald. In one country where persecution is faced and it is prohibited to publish our books or use colporteurs, every Seventh-day Adventist is a missionary and distributes our books at cost which are published on government presses. The result is that the work has grown marvelously and thousands have been added to the church.

Elder Carcich challenged the workers of the Middle East Division to use what they have with the assurance that if they set out jars to be filled, God will add His blessing and great results will be seen.

Elder F. C. Webster responded to the message and all stood in reconsecration as Elder Andrew Fearing offered the consecration prayer.

To close the devotional service prayers were offered by W. A. Potter and Harold L. Gray and all present joined in singing "Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated, Lord to Thee." L. C. Miller pronounced the benediction.

Manoug Nazirian offered prayer at the opening of the 9:00 a.m. session. Elder Webster called attention to the membership goals for the third quarter and urged all to work and pray for a great harvest at the time of our next special baptism date, September 23.

67/171 NAIM AWAIS--EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

VOTED, To approve the recommendation of the Middle East Press board that Naim Awais be appointed Editor-in-Chief.

67/172 ARTHUR EWERT--PERMANENT RETURN

Arthur Ewert, DDS, came to Benghazi October 29, 1964, where he has served as dentist in the hospital. He has requested that he be granted a leave of absence to study orthodontics at his own expense, but with the idea of returning to Libya for service. It was

VOTED, To recommend to the General Conference that Dr. Arthur Ewert be returned to the United States for further study at his own expense, effective May 1, 1968. Though this would be on the basis of a Permanent Return we request the General Conference that Dr. Ewert be placed on deferred appointment to return to the Middle East Division.

67/173 NICK GERMANIS--REQUEST FOR SERVICES

A translator is needed to assist in conducting a Five-Day Plan in Cyprus. It was

VOTED, To pass on to the Southern European Division a request for the services of Nick Germanis, president of the Greek Mission, to assist in conducting a Five-Day Plan in Nicosia, Cyprus October 6-13, 1967.

67/174 INGATHERING SUPPLIES COMMITTEE

VOTED, To appoint a committee to plan for supplies and for the Ingathering brochure for the 1968 campaign:

Manoug Nazirian, Chairman  
R. E. Anderson  
Naim Awais  
Salim Japas  
L. C. Miller

67/175 ITINERARIES

VOTED, To approve the following itineraries:

R. L. Jacobs	August 7 - 19	Tehran, Iran
	November 24-December 1	Tehran, Iran
Dr. H. C. Lamp	August 6 - 13	Benghazi, Libya
	August 16-17	Nicosia, Cyprus
	October 6 - 13	Nicosia, Cyprus
	October 20-27	Istanbul, Turkey
	November 7 - 9	Benghazi, Libya
R. C. Mills	August 10 - 19	Tehran, Iran
	November 21 - 26	Baghdad, Iraq
	November 27 - Dec. 3	Tehran, Iran
F. C. Webster	August 6 - 10	Benghazi, Libya
	August 10-19	Tehran, Iran
	September 24-27	Istanbul, Turkey
	October 5 - 8	Benghazi, Libya
	October 9 - 15	Vacation
	October 16-26	Washington and Andrews University
	October 27-31	Vacation
	November 1 - 5	Istanbul, Turkey
	November 6 - 7	Athens, Greece
	November 7 - 9	Benghazi, Libya
	November 23-26	Baghdad, Iraq
	November 27 - Dec. 3	Tehran, Iran

J. J. Aitken	Sept. 24-27	Istanbul, Turkey
	Sept. 28	Ankara, Turkey
	Sept. 29 - Oct. 1	Beirut, Lebanon
	Oct. 2 - 3	Nicosia, Cyprus
	Oct. 4 - 7	Tehran, Iran
	Oct. 8 - 11	Benghazi, Libya
K. H. Emmerson	Nov. 7 - 9	Benghazi, Libya
	Nov. 10-18	Beirut
	Nov. 24-26	Baghdad, Iraq
	Nov. 27-28	Tehran, Iran
D. W. Hunter	Nov. 1 - 5	Istanbul, Turkey
	Nov. 6 - 7	Athens, Greece
	Nov. 7 - 9	Benghazi, Libya
	Nov. 10-20	Beirut, Lebanon
	Nov. 21-26	Baghdad, Iraq
	Nov. 27-28	Tehran, Iran
H. E. Rice	August 9 - 13	Benghazi, Libya

67/176 S. J. SCHWANTES--TRAVEL REQUEST

VOTED, To grant permission to S. J. Schwantes to travel in the United States and Brazil from August 17 to September 29, 1967.

67/177 ANTOINE ZAHLANE - PHARMACEUTICAL COURSE

Antoine Zahlane is the son of Maroun Khoury, a recent convert from another church who is presently receiving a living allowance in harmony with the policy for ministers from other denominations. Antoine has completed two years of a pharmaceutical course in the University in Parma, Italy and has requested aid in continuing his studies for the two remaining years with the idea of devoting his entire life to service in the Adventist church. We have need for qualified pharmacists in the Benghazi hospital and since this young man plans to be baptized on July 29, 1967 and gives promise for the future, it was,

VOTED, To grant a loan to Antoine Zahlane covering the cost of tuition and necessary textbooks for study in the University in Parma, Italy, it being understood that this provision is for the 1967-68 school year, that a suitable agreement shall be signed by the beneficiary, and that the loan shall be amortized on the basis of 20% per year of service.

67/178 TOWFIC ISSA -- SERVICE REQUEST

VOTED, To pass on to the Lebanon Section the request of the Iraq Section for Towfic Issa to help in conducting a Youth Camp during the summer of 1967.

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Midyear Committee  
July 28, 1967

67/179 SYRIA SECTION--ADVENTIST WELFARE SOCIETY

VOTED, To approve the organization of an Adventist Welfare Society in the Syria Section, in harmony with their request.

67/180 SYRIA SECTION--REALLOCATION OF 1967 SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

VOTED, To authorize the reallocation of SyL 7,000.00 previously appropriated to Syria for completion of the Damascus Center (MED 66/26) for the purpose now of establishing space in the Center for welfare work and additional facilities for the Voice of Prophecy school.

67/181 LEON DICKRAN THOMASSIAN--CALL TO BENGHAZI

Leon Dickran Thomassian is a student from Iraq who recently graduated from Spicer Memorial College and requested work in the Division territory. It was

VOTED, To pass on to Leon Dickran Thomassian the call of the Benghazi Hospital for him to serve as an accountant.

Recommendations from the Finance Committee were approved as follows:

67/182 SAMI SROUR--LOAN FOR MEDICAL STUDIES

VOTED, That Sami Srour be granted assistance toward his medical studies in Loma Linda University School of Medicine, in harmony with the Policy on Loans to National Students of Medicine (MED 64/135), beginning with the 1967-68 school year.

67/183 SALARY BASE INCREASE

VOTED, To authorize a 5% base increase in the 100% Wage Scale throughout the Division field, effective July 1, 1967, it being understood that in the case of the local sections the Division will supply one half of the funds required for the remainder of 1967.

The committee adjourned sine die at 11:15 a.m.

F. C. Webster, Chairman

R. L. Jacobs, Secretary