

# Nusseibeh detained for 'spying for Iraq'

JON IMMANUEL

Sari Nusseibeh has been placed in six months administrative detention for transferring security information for Iraq's use, the Defense Ministry said last night.

Nusseibeh, considered a leading Palestinian "moderate," was arrested by Border Police at his home outside Jerusalem last night, his wife said.

In a statement, the Defense Ministry said Nusseibeh was detained "for the subversive activity of collecting security information for Iraqi intelligence. The detention follows his activity of collecting security information for Iraqi intelligence, especially after the missile attacks on Israel."

Nusseibeh "acted as coordinator for forwarding security information to various elements, including PLO elements abroad, for the Iraqi intelligence," the ministry charged.

Nusseibeh, a philosophy lecturer at Bir Zeit University, had previously been named in court documents as a paymaster of the intifada. A supporter of the PLO's mainstream Fa-



tah, he had been viewed last year as a possible delegate to proposed Israeli-Palestinian talks to arrange elections in the territories.

A very pro-Iraqi article Nusseibeh published in the pro-PLO daily *al-Fajr* last Wednesday caused a considerable stir in the defense community. Among other things, Nusseibeh wrote that since the fall of Soviet power, the U.S. has been looking around for a new "satanic enemy" to fight, and found him in Saddam Hussein, upon whom the U.S. could use all the advanced electronic weaponry invented for use against the Soviet Union. But, he said, Saddam had exploded the West's hopes for an easy and quick victory in a cruel and unjust aggression.

## Nusseibeh's arrest preventive

Police Minister Ronni Milo said yesterday that the authorities requested administrative detention against Palestinian academic Sari Nusseibeh as a preventive measure, because he was contacted by an agent of Iraq and asked to supply information about the results of the Scud missile raids.

الجريدة الزمان بوست : العدد ١٧٦٥٩

الأرجاء : ٤ كانون الثاني ١٩٩١م

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