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Why the US granted 'protected' status to Iranian terrorists

By Scott Peterson,
Staff writer of **The Christian Science Monitor,**
September 2007

<http://melindasecor.blogspot.com/2007/09/why-us-granted-protected-status-to.html>

The US State Department officially considers a group of 3,800 Marxist Iranian rebels - who once killed several Americans and was supported by Saddam Hussein - "terrorists."

But the same group, under American guard in an Iraqi camp, was just accorded a new status by the Pentagon: "protected persons" under the Geneva Convention.

This strange twist, analysts say, underscores the divisions in Washington over US strategy in the Middle East and the war against terrorism. It's also a function of the swiftly deteriorating US-Iran dynamic, and a victory for US hawks who favor using the Mujahideen-e Khalq Organization (MKO) or "People's Holy Warriors," as a tool against Iran's clerical regime.

"How is it that [the MKO] get the Geneva Convention, and the people in Guantánamo Bay don't get it? It's a

huge contradiction," says Ali Ansari, a British expert on Iran. "This will be interpreted in Iran as another link in the chain of the US determination to move onto Iran next" in the US war on terror.

For months, Tehran has quietly signaled that it would turn over high-ranking Al Qaeda members in exchange for MKO members now in Iraq. The MKO's new status likely puts an end to any such deal.

The shift also comes as momentum builds in Washington to take some action against the Islamic republic. Wednesday, it was reported that Tehran has broken United Nations inventory seals and may resume work on constructing centrifuges - the machines used for enriching uranium.

Senior European diplomats - who brokered a private deal with Iran last October that included halting suspected nuclear weapons programs, in exchange for Western nuclear power expertise - are expected to secretly meet Iranian counterparts Thursday in London or Paris to see what can be salvaged of their agreement.

"US-Iran relations are

drifting into very dangerous waters at the moment," says Mr. Ansari.

Indeed, the Pentagon decision comes amid a string of critical reports about Iran that are causing some US lawmakers to wonder whether the Bush administration's action against Iraq should have been aimed instead at Iran.

But some analysts see the change as related to the US presidential election. "This whole dynamic is tied up with [US] domestic politics...and not about the MKO itself, which is not really a major threat to Iran anymore," says Mohamed Hadi Semati, a political scientist from Tehran University now at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington.

"The neo-cons were losing ground, and this new Iran bashing is seen by them as an opportunity to drum up the theme of terror and the possibility of a collision with Iran - therefore, you need a very decisive leader in the White House," says Mr. Semati. "At the same time, Iran is giving a lot of ammunition to [Bush administration hawks on Iran]."

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Another assassination attempt by Mojahedin Khalq Organisation (Rajavi cult) in Paris.

Iran Interlink,

<http://www.iran-interlink.org/>

September 24, 2007

Payvand association in a statement today said that two MKO members have attacked Mr. Behzad Alishahi in Rue du Faubourg Poissonniere in Paris on September 24, 2007 around 9:30 am. According to the statement, the attackers were forced to leave the scene when faced by resistance from Mr. Alishahi and people in the street who came to help him. The attackers failed to snatch Mr. Alishahi's briefcase but vowed to take come back shouting, "we will be back and we will teach you a lesson". Link to the statement (Persian)

<http://www.irane-ayandeh.com/?p=840>

Mr. Alishahi had been a high ranking official of the MKO for two decades. He survived the cult after raising concerns about the vio-

lations of human rights inside the MKO. He currently resides in Europe and is an active human rights advocate and critic of Mr. and Mrs. Rajavi, the self-appointed life-time leaders of the Mojahedin Khalq Organization. This news comes after a series of attacks carried out by the MKO in European cities including the planned semi-military operation carried out by MKO members in Paris in June 2007, which ended in the serious injury of speakers and invitees of a peace conference in FIAP building.

[Cult leader Massoud Rajavi gives go-ahead to kill witnesses in European countries. An open letter to the British Home Secretary Jacqui Smith \(Anne Singleton, July 2007\)](#)

While the Mojahedin Khalq Organization is desperately trying to use deception and propaganda to fight back

against the inclusion of the group in the list of terrorist entities in the USA, UK, European Union and Canada, it is widely believed that the escalation of violence seen in the last couple of months is the direct result of the order issued by the cult leader in a statement in which he tells his followers to "eliminate" any voice of criticism against the Mojahedin Khalq Organization.

[Cult leader Massoud Rajavi gives go-ahead to kill witnesses in European countries. An open letter to the British Home Secretary Jacqui Smith \(Anne Singleton, July 2007\)](#)

Latest article by Mr. Alishahi. Days before the assassination attempt against him:

[The highest pitch of stupidity! \(Mojahedin Khalq have not given up violence and terror\)](#)

Witnesses To Testify Against Mojahedin Khalq Organisation (Rajavi Cult)

Al-Ahali newspaper/Iraq, translated by Iran Didban, September 29, 2007

<http://www.irandidban.com/master-e.asp?ID=13790>

In an interview with Al-Ahali newspaper, Jafar al-Mousawi, the chief prosecutor of Iraq's high criminal court said: "The court has documents proving the involvement of Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in killing and assassinating 35 Iraqi citizens in southern Iraq in 1991."

"The court has witnesses testifying on the involvement of this organization in killing Iraqi people," he said.

Mousawi added: "Trial of

MKO leaders would be held in near future."

He didn't mention the names of the accused or how they were supposed to be summoned.



11th of September 2001 and the MKO

By: Nejat Society

The terrorist disaster of the 11th of September 2001 with no doubt severely shocked the world. This catastrophe certainly became the globe's deep sorrow at the time. Almost every country and every organisation in the world, regardless of the state of their relationship with the USA, strongly condemned the act. But wouldn't be astonishing to learn that there was a group which actually celebrated the most brutal terrorist operation in the contemporary history?

"Bagherzadeh" was one the bases of the Mojahedin-é Khalq Organisation (MKO) in Iraq before the fall of the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. This base was normally used for the group gatherings of the MKO members in Iraq - otherwise known as the National Liberation Army (NLA). The time to time sessions which always had ideological themes were usually held with the presence of the co-leaders of the organisation Mas'ud and Maryam Rajavi. The members used to get together from different bases in Iraq for one week or more to listen to the teachings of the leaders.

When the 11th of September 2001 catastrophe occurred, about 2000 people were assembled in Bagherzadeh Base to attend the general meeting of the NLA and to receive the speeches delivered by the Rajavis. At the very day the loudspeakers throughout the base called everyone to meet in the main hall to become aware of very important and crucial news. After a good number of people were gathered, a video clip containing the news was shown from the widescreens.

The news was about how the twin towers were blown up by some fanatic extremist so called Moslems. The video clip was shown over and over for several times and each time it received jubilations from the members and officials of the MKO. The officials were encouraging the others to dance and be cheerful.

The following day a meeting was arranged for Mas'ud and Maryam Rajavi to deliver their speeches to the members and officials. The same clips were shown several times again and each time it received the same jubilations. Mas'ud started speaking about the terrorist incident. He did not condemn the act at all and even virtually accepted that it was an anti-imperialistic move. He claimed that his group is far more superior to the Al-Qaeda and "if they could do such a sophisticated military operation we must be able to do so in a much better manner". He called the operation the consequence of the US policy and also the exhibition of the power of the ideology of Islam! He declared that "wait and see the fruits of our revolutionary Islam!"

Maryam started her speech next. She clearly stated that the terrorist disaster is to the advantage of the MKO since it draws the attention of the US administration to Afghanistan and at least for a while they would forget about Iraq and Saddam Hussein. She then related the suicide bombing to the Islamic theology and claimed that only this sort of ideology could carry out that sort of complicated task.

Many MKO members who were present in that meeting have

bared witness about that day and about that meeting after they left the group. When the US Forces occupied the Ashraf base - the main base of the MKO in Iraq - they interviewed many former members and they all explained the same story which was mentioned above. Although the US State Department has called the organisation a foreign terrorist group as well as a personality cult in its annual report, but unfortunately the report has deliberately failed to mention this mere fact that they practically hailed the 11th of September terrorist occurrence.

Some of ex-members emphasised that just before the US Forces occupied the Ashraf Camp, the MKO authorities destroyed a lot of tapes, discs and documents including the shots taken from the meeting mentioned above.

It should also be noted that since the incident of 11th of September up to now, the MKO has not by any means officially condemned this terrorist act and other military operations done by the Al-Qaeda in Europe. This in fact is despite the reality that the organisation continuously emphasises on the necessity of countering terrorism and in this manner even calls the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) the godfather of terrorism. The fact that the MKO has totally focused its antiterrorism propaganda on IRI and stays completely silent about the 11th of September terrorist act as the obvious symbol of international terrorism proves that the issue of countering terrorism is only considered by the leaders of the MKO as a useful tool and they do not basically reject it.

Mojahedin Khalq (MKO), from Resistance to Treachery

**Iraqmemory.org,
September 25, 2007**

http://www.iraqmemory.org/inp/view_printer.asp?ID=799 (Arabic)

Today, in Iraq's political, legal and press circles, we are witnessing hot debates on the role of Mojahedin-e khalq of Iran in suppressing the uprising of Iraqi in 1991. The case was opened by Iraqi Chief Prosecutor Jafar al-Mousawi, when he announced that investigations prove the involvement of terrorist elements of Mojahedin-e Khalq in killing Iraqi people and that Iraq's judiciary is determined to prosecute them, even if they have left the country.

A while ago, news agencies quoted al-Mousawi saying that 150 MKO members, including Maryam and Masoud Rajavi would be sued legally and that Iraq's High Criminal Court will investigate the crimes against Iraqis wherever, even outside Iraq.

Prosecutor pointed to a number of measures taken in this regard and said: "We have taken steps to return and try them here. During the investigations on the crimes former criminal regime, documents were retrieved showing that Mojahedin-e Khalq committed crimes against Iraqis during 1991 uprising in southern and northern Iraq."

"These crimes include massacre, torture, arrest, misusing Iraq's public properties and receiving a share of oil revenues from Saddam," he added.

On the other hand, MKO's media in Camp Ashraf reject the reports and accuse al-Mousawi of intending to massacre MKO members. Some Sunni forces of Iraq also supported the MKO and rejected Prosecutor's comments on the group's role in killing Iraqis.

To understand the issue and the activities of so-called "NCRI" in Iraq, the case of their activities and their ties to former regime of Saddam, their presence in Iraq for two decades and their activities during uprising days in 1991, should be studied on the basis of military, intelligence and surveying and the participation of this group with Baathists in killing Iraqis should be examined very carefully. Security aspects of the issue should be reviewed, apart from media controversies (on Iran's interference in Iraq), because it's an Iraqi issue.

Of course, there are documents, events and facts proving MKO crimes in Kefri, Tuz Khormato, Kelar and southern parts of the country. The author of this text witnessed the crimes of this organization in Kelar in March 1991. Painful events are still in the memories of Kelar people. The victims, most of whom employees of the hospital, saw the crimes of the group.

Another important issue is the presence of Mojahedin-e khalq in Iraq. The purpose of establishing MKO's camps and bases in Baghdad was to build a military shield around the capital.

There were Khantari base in western Baghdad (between Baghdad and Ramadi), Khaled base, Khan Banisa'd in the north and another base inside Baghdad. Besides, there were other bases near Kirkuk, which were occupied by this organization after Iraqi forces took the control of this city during Anfal operation in 1988.

Here I should point to a book in French, written by a former member of Mojahedin on NCRI's killings in Tuz Khormato and Kefri in 1991. We can't cover the details in this article, so we leave it for later. On the events in Kelar, I should add that after Suleimanieh was cleaned of Iraqi security forces in 1991, the college of fine arts was established in the city and I was a student there. At that time I lived out of Kelar. Once I went to Kelar, and I was waiting for a car to take me to Suleimanieh when Peshmerga forces announced that several tanks with white flags were moving from Jelula towards Kelar. First, we thought they were Iraqi tanks, coming to surrender. So, Peshmerga forces didn't react. One of the tanks headed towards the north and closed city's exit way and the other was moving towards city's hospital.

Meanwhile, a white civilian car from the hospital moved towards the highway, carrying 25 hospital workers. Tank opened fire on them and killed all the workers. Other tanks

Mojahedin Khalq (MKO), from Resistance to Treachery (cont)

stopped near the city's well-known fortress "Shirvaneh". By now, Peshmerga forces had understood that these were MKO's tanks, coming to control the city. It was only a few days since Iraqi forces have left the city.

The beginning of MKO's war against Iraqis returns to early day's of 1991 uprising in Tuz Khormato. At that time, MKO forces pretended to be going to Khles through Tuz Khormato. They talked to Peshmerga commanders and Kurd officials allowed them to go because the issue had

nothing to do with them. However, as soon as passing the city, MKO forces closed the exit and opened fire on the city. A civilian bus with 30 passengers was hit. All on board were killed.

In a few days, MKO members forced the people to leave their homes and go to Kelar on foot. This mercenary group moved towards Kefri, killed women and forced the people to leave their homes. They were stronger than Iraq forces and Peshmerga with their old weapons couldn't stop these foreign forces,

armed to teeth with modern weapons and trained by Iraq's Republican Guards.

It's natural that MKO is trying to defend itself now but it can't hide its crimes against Iraqis.

There's no dispute in the way this organization acted, because the memory of Iraqis is full of their organized terror, committed under the supervision of Baathists. Those supporting this group should know that this group is only a burnt card, lacking even a supporter in Iran and political-military influence.

France to Probe Killing of Iranian

By PIERRE-ANTOINE SOUCHARD
Associated Press Writer,
September 18, 2007

Associated Press News-wires



PARIS (AP) - French authorities plan to investigate the 1999 killing of a top Iranian general, which was claimed by an Iranian opposition group based in France, judicial officials said Monday.

Brig. Gen. Ali Sayyad Shirazi, deputy chief of the joint staff command of the Iranian armed forces, was gunned down in April 1999 in front of his home in Tehran by men dressed as city cleaners. The People's Mujahedeen of Iran claimed responsibility.

The new investigation stems from a complaint Shirazi's family filed with the French justice system two years ago for "murder and complicity in murder," judicial officials said on condition of anonymity because the case is ongoing. French judicial authorities say they have the authority to investigate the case because the political wing of the People's Mujahedeen is based in Auvers-Sur-Oise, north of Paris.

The People's Mujahedeen, which seeks the overthrow of Iran's Islamic government, is listed as a terrorist organization by the State Department and the European Union. Former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein let the group operate camps in Iraq from which it staged attacks on Iran.

The group says it is a peaceful movement of exiled Iranian opponents, and

that its militants in Iraq have handed their weapons over to U.S.-led forces. A representative did not immediately return a call seeking comment Monday. France's justice system has been investigating the People's Mujahedeen since 2001.

In 2003, French police carried out a sweep against the group and dozens of members were arrested, including Maryam Rajavi, the head of the group's political wing. The operation set off protests, with two Mujahedeen supporters burning themselves to death.

Seventeen people, including Rajavi, were placed under investigation -- a step short of being charged -- on suspicion of associating with or financing terrorist groups. She was held for about two weeks before being released.

11 September and MKO's Tactic of Duplicity

Bahar Irani
Mojahedin.ws
Sep. 11, 2007

Hardly anyone doubts that al-Qaeda perpetrated 11 September attacks had a great impact on Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, or Mojahedin cult, to make a shift in its terrorist conducts. The global reaction against the attacks and a shown decisiveness to combat against the abominable phenomena of terrorism made MKO to denounce armed activity if not in nature but provisionally in words.

The US invasion of Iraq as 9/11's aftermath and the consequent fall of Saddam actually deprived MKO of a bountiful, reliable strategic ally. Not only Saddam granted Mojahedin soil and abode, but also supplied them with logistics and arms, espionage equipments, training and abundant dollars. In fact, Mojahedin's greatest enthusiasm to overthrow the Iranian regime came all from Saddam's support. Saddam's fall absolutely disappointed MKO of further availability of the precious opportunity that destined the group's survival or demise.

The global war on terrorism turns to be an internationally sensitive issue

at the present. Consequently, Mojahedin had to start a new phase to avoid coming under the central focus of anti-terrorism moves as well as enabling them to take a different step and a new democratic array in its struggle against the Islamic Republic. It was impossible unless Mojahedin could be adopted inside a new sphere of power and influence that was dominating the region. Fortunate enough for Mojahedin, the long friction between the new authoritative power in Iraq and Iran's ruling power was at its climax.

But there existed an impediment; MKO was on the State Department's FTO since it was initiated. Now the blacklisted group had to convince the invader-host that it no more advocated armed and aggressive means and sought democratic approaches. The first steps were taken by its novel proposition of the 'third option' and establishment of a 'Solidarity Front'. Such moves were much the outcome of its lost military equipments and potentialities that were indispensables of armed struggle rather than a fundamental shift to democracy in its strategy of struggle.

The ECJ's lower court ruling wherein it was stated that MKO had denounced terrorist deeds since June 2001 emboldened the group to start an overall propaganda blitz to get rid of the terrorist tag and draw supports especially among the Americans. However, neither the US nor the EU paid were duped by what they concluded to be a new tactic by a terrorist group. One of the reasons contradicting MEK's claim of renouncing terrorist activities since June 2001 was presented by the State Department's April 30 report releasing the list of designated terrorist organizations:

In 2003, French authorities arrested 160 MEK members at operational bases they believed the MEK was using to coordinate financing and planning for terrorist attacks. Upon the arrest of MEK leader Maryam Rajavi, MEK members took to Paris' streets and engaged in self-immolation. French authorities eventually released Rajavi." [Rajavi was released on bail and is currently awaiting trial on terrorism charges].

11 September and MKO's Tactic of Duplicity (cont)

Furthermore, in an unprecedented move, the report branded MKO as a 'cult of personality'. It happened at a time when Mojahedin eluded to show a clear position concerning 9/11 plots and maintained a meaningful silence over a most lambasted terrorist deed that exemplified the highest threat of terrorism which demanded a global move to confront. Developing a deep comprehension of Mojahedin's terrorist nature, America is well aware that MKO cannot change a terrorist mentality it has preserved for nearly forty years. As asserted in the State Department's report, "MEK leadership and members across the world maintain the capacity and will to commit terrorist acts in Europe, the Middle East, the United State, Canada, and beyond".

MKO seems to be the sole terrorist group on the State Department's list that has been carefully scrutinized to be found that it would undergo no fundamental and strategic change unless it reconsidered its ideology whose infrastructure is aggressive confrontation of global imperialism embodied in America. Thus, MKO's refuge in liberalism

stronghold in no way indicates that it has submitted to an ideological shift but rather parlaying circumstantial opportunities to break out of its complete isolation, a result of a universal combat against terrorism, from the political stage.

Americans in particular and the West in general have discerned that although al-Qaeda and Mojahedin-e Khalq show slight differences in interpretation of Islam, in contrast to al-Qaeda, Mojahedin appear more dogmatic in confrontation of America, the West, and the camp of capitalism. Once al-Qaeda formed a short-lasting alliance with America against the threat of communism in the world of Islam; Mojahedin, because of its ideological collectivity, played the same role for the camp of socialism.

Mojahedin's immediate, explicit reaction to al-Qaeda's terrorist attacks was its extravagant banquet and cries of jubilation at Camp Ashraf. Instead of taking a strong position against al-Qaeda operations at least as a proof of their own claims of renunciation of terrorism, Mojahedin began condemning Iranian regime and proposing seemingly pro-democratic solutions in a new turn of phony democratic struggle after long advocating the violent overthrow of the clerical regime. Before going any further in propagation of democracy, to convince the suspicious eyes surveying their slightest terrorist attitudes, Mojahedin should have a revision of their ideological bigotry and exhibit a clear stance toward the globally despised terrorist al-Qaeda.



many Iranians conclude the U.S. is supporting a terrorist organization

Middle East Online,
September 24, 2007

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/opinion/?id=22232>

[Note: This essay reviews [Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings of Israel, Iran, and the United States](#) by Trita Parsi (Yale University Press, 361 pp., \$28.00)]

Peter W. Galbraith, a former US Ambassador to Croatia, is Senior Diplomatic Fellow at the Center for Arms Control and a principal at the Windham Resources Group, a firm that negotiates on behalf of its clients in post-conflict societies, including Iraq.

His [The End of Iraq: How American Incompetence Created a War Without End](#) is now out in paperback.

This essay appears in the October 11th, 2007 issue of [The New York Review of Books](#).

... The Mujahideen-e-Khalq is one of the oldest -- and nastiest -- of the Iranian opposition groups. After originally supporting the Iranian revolution, the MEK broke with Khomeini and relocated to Iraq in the early stages of the Iran-Iraq War. It was so closely connected to Saddam that MEK fighters not only assisted the Iraqis in the Iran-Iraq War but also helped Saddam put down the

1991 Kurdish uprising. While claiming to be democratic and pro-Western, the MEK closely resembles a cult. In April 2003, when I visited Camp Ashraf, its main base northeast of Baghdad, I found robot-like hero worship of the MEK's leaders, Massoud and Maryam Rajavi; the fighters I met parroted a revolutionary party line, and there were transparently crude efforts at propaganda. To emphasize its being a modern organization as distinct from the Tehran theorists, the MEK appointed a woman as Camp Ashraf's nominal commander and maintained a women's tank battalion. The commander was clearly not in command and the women mechanics supposedly working on tank engines all had spotless uniforms.

Both the U.S. State Department and Iran view the MEK as a terrorist group. The U.S. government, however, does not always act as if the MEK were one. During the 2003 invasion of Iraq, the U.S. military dropped a single bomb on Camp Ashraf. It struck the women's barracks at a time of day when the soldiers were not there. When I visited two weeks later with an ABC camera crew, we filmed the MEK bringing a scavenged Iraqi tank into their base. U.S. forces drove in and out of Camp Ashraf, making no effort to detain the sup-

posed terrorists or to stop them from collecting Iraqi heavy weapons. Since Iran had its agents in Iraq from the time Saddam fell (and may have been doing its own scavenging of weapons), one can presume that this behavior did not go unnoticed. Subsequently, the US military did disarm the MEK, but in spite of hostility from both the Shiites and Kurds who now jointly dominate Iraq's government, its fighters are still at Camp Ashraf. Rightly or wrongly, many Iranians conclude from this that the U.S. is supporting a terrorist organization that is fomenting violence inside Iran...

full article:

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/opinion/?id=22232>

The Victor?

The US has good reason to worry about Iran's activities in Iraq. But contrary to the Bush administration's allegations, Iran does not oppose Iraq's new political order. In fact, Iran is the major beneficiary of the American-induced changes in Iraq since 2003, says Peter Galbraith.

[*This essay appears in the October 11th, 2007 issue of [The New York Review of Books](#), and is posted with the kind permission of the editors of that magazine.*]

The highest pitch of stupidity! (Mojahedin Khalq Organisation vow to continue violence and terrorism)

Behzad Alishahi,

September 21, 2007

link to the original article
(Persian)

<http://hasanzebel.blogfa.com/post-537.aspx>

(Translated by Iran Interlink)

If there has ever been any doubt about the possible degree of stupidity of mankind, today, with the brightness of folly shining brilliantly from the nominal head of the Mojahedin Khalq Organisation (who is currently confined by the US Army along with the remainder of the group in Camp Ashraf in Iraq), there should be no further doubt that humankind has crossed new frontiers even in this respect.

A new announcement by the nominal head of the Mojahedin Khalq (Rajavi cult) has opened up a new umbrella for all human beings under which all the great philosophers of the past can now live in peace and tranquillity. To what am I referring? It is the message issued by the cult under the name of Sedigheh Hussein responding to the imminent start of a court case into the assassination of Sayad Shirazi (a retired General from the Armed Forces of Iran) in which the family of the victim has filed complaints in the French courts.

The question here is not whether the assassinated General was a good man or not. The question is about the clear planning and ordering of the assassination of a man without any prosecution, trial or judgement – an extrajudicial execution in other words. Now an organisation, which in its own propaganda declares that it is against execution, an organisation which sheds tears like a crocodile over the execution of rapists and mass murderers, has itself been the

executioner in a murder case. And not by the order of a court. Not even by the accusation and verdict of its own members and leaders. No, the assassination was performed on the direct order of the secret services (Estekhbarat) of Iraq under the rule of Saddam Hussein. According to a clear, secretly filmed meeting and according to other documents Estekhbarat ordered the assassination and the Mojahedin Khalq of course claimed a hefty payment to spend on propaganda to launch and relaunch its brand, 'Maryam Rajavi', over and over again and portray her as the face of a 'president in exile'. (Fortunately, this time unlike on many other occasions in the history of Iran, after the fall of Saddam Hussein the overwhelming evidence of mercenary work conducted by Rajavi for Saddam has been exposed and documented.)

The MKO's reaction to the revelation of the start of judicial proceedings, which are in effect putting the MKO itself on trial for the mercenary work it performed for Saddam Hussein, is very interesting. You would have thought that the organisation would have no more than two choices. Either, to take an offensive position toward the court and the actions of supporting organisations. In this case they would declare the assassination of Sayad Shirazi as a historical point in its honourable history. (As the group did in the case of the execution of Kavooosi who was executed by the Iranian judiciary for many counts of rape and murder. The MKO proudly published his picture as a heroic Mojahed who was smiling when being executed.) The MKO would announce that it had assassinated him (as indeed it declared after assassination) and would do the same in the case of other assassinations.

Or the organisation would take a defensive position toward the court. In this case it would declare that 'no, we did not do that' or would declare that 'this was done without the leader's order and we have punished the person responsible'. (It has come to light that at least one of the assassins had fallen out with the MKO and has been killed in suspicious circumstances.)

But no, the Mojahedin Khalq did not take any of the above routes. They instead have chosen the stupid route under the name of Sadigheh Hussein (nominal leader of the MKO in Ashraf camp). She, completely overlooking the reality of the situation, has announced that they WELCOME the investigation as though the court being held to investigate the deeds of the assassinated victim. She has announced with great HAPPINESS that this court is necessary but not sufficient and it should investigate the deeds of many other people who have been assassinated by the Mojahedin Khalq. Imagine that a murderer on trial for killing a man or a woman suddenly declares: This court is necessary but is not sufficient. The court should be considering all the deeds of all the other victims whom I have killed. In fact the court should consider investigating the deeds of all the many I have yet to kill and haven't had the time and the opportunity up to now.

A murderer might hope to evade the maximum sentence by claiming that his victims deserved to die, but would surely spend the rest of his or her life in a mental hospital under close supervision. But who knows? The declaration of the MKO may have been announced just to serve this very purpose of avoiding the maximum sentence on the grounds of insanity!

Mojahedin Khalq (Rajavi cult) Henchmen in Western countries

Irane Ayandeh,

August 02, 2007

<http://www.irane-ayandeh.com/?p=12>

Short films from Mojahedin Khalq agents in London, Washington, Paris, Amsterdam,... attacking meetings and critics of Rajavi cults.

The terrorist group latest attack was in June 2007 in which they attacked people attending a meeting of "Peace and tolerance" in Paris. Later it was revealed that the "Commander" of this "operation" was a know MKO terrorist directly connected to the HQ of terrorist cult leader Maryam Rajavi in the north of Paris. It was also revealed that one of the main aims of the latest orchestrated attack was

to Assassinate Mr. Massoud Khodabandeh, Mrs. Anne Singleton and Mr. Mohammad Hussein Sobhani who were attending the meeting. the assassination attempt failed due to the intervention by the French Police (Iran Interlink)

Anne Singleton wrote to British Home Secretary on July 09, 2007:

Cult leader Massoud Rajavi gives go-ahead to kill witnesses in European countries.

An open letter to the British Home Secretary Jacqui Smith

**Anne Singleton,
July 09, 2007**

A communiqué was issued on June 07, 2007 by the Mojahedin Khalq Organisation (MKO)'s cult leader Massoud Rajavi, who has been a fugitive since the fall of Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

In the communiqué, Rajavi names three people, including myself, who are witnesses in the on-going investigation against the cult by the French Judiciary, and specifically describes them as "the agents of the Iranian secret services". For those familiar with the MKO cult, this is clearly understood to be Rajavi's method of issuing a death sentence to be carried out by his followers.

On June 17, 2007 over 50 people associated with the MKO cult lay in wait to attack a public meeting in Paris at which the three persons mentioned above were among the invitees. It was later revealed that the attack had been orchestrated from the MKO cult HQ in Auvers-sur-Oise. According to French police, the assailants in this violent attack had been transferred to France from other European coun-

tries. None had French documents, some had false documents. The attackers also filmed their activities at the scene. This was reminiscent of the series of orchestrated self-immolations following the arrest of the cult leader's wife Maryam Rajavi in June 2003, which were also filmed by the cult's activists.

There is evidence that at least some part of the military-style operation on June 17 had targeted the three individuals named in Massoud Rajavi's recent communiqué in an assassination attempt. The incident is currently being investigated by French police.

There is clear evidence that some of those involved in the violent attack were MKO militants trained by Saddam Hussein in Iraq who had been sent directly from Camp Ashraf to European countries in the past few months. Camp Ashraf is of course guarded by the American Army in Iraq. Following the capture of Camp Ashraf terrorist base in 2003, US officials – both military and civil - processed all the captured combatants, taking DNA and fingerprint evidence and issuing them with ID cards. Several of these people have been recently seen in the UK, Germany, France and Netherlands

participating in MKO activities in the EU.

It is clear that responsibility for the lives of people attacked by a terrorist organisation which is apparently favoured by some Israeli lobbies and neo-conservative circles to be used to carry out terrorist acts against Iranians, Iraqis and others, cannot be laid at the door of the cult itself, but must rest with the people who have been maintaining them as a terrorist force whether in Iraq or in Europe and North America. Those who have refused to dismantle the MKO's infrastructure and continue to support them financially as well as loosening their leashes in western countries will be held accountable for any harm which comes to those either directly named and threatened by Massoud Rajavi or to any others who are harmed by implication.

**Yours Sincerely,
Anne Singleton.**

cc
Mrs Michele Alliot-Marie,
French Interior Minister
Dr Wolfgang Schauble, German Interior Minister
Ms Dr Guusje Ter Horst, Netherlands Interior Minister
Dr Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, USA

MKO Behind Karbala Massacre?

MKO Behind Karbala Massacre?

LPAC

Sept. 13, 2007

Confirming a report given to EIR News Service by an Iranian source last week, that the group responsible for violence at the Imam Hussein shrine in Karbala, Iraq on Aug. 28 was the MKO, the Tehran Times has presented information on how the MKO triggered the events. The report, issued today by the Tehran Times Political Desk, says that three months prior to the massacre, "closed-circuit cameras captured a 23-year-old woman and 13-year-old youth who were gathering information about the various entrances to the Imam Hussein (AS) shrine. After their arrest, it became clear that they had been sent by the Mojahedin Khalq Organization

(MKO) to locate ways to sneak into the shrine for



terrorist operations." The paper describes how the attack was planned. Members of Moqtada Sadr's Al-Mahdi militia who were trying to enter the shrine, were prevented by security forces. Then, clashes began which led to 52 dead and 300 injured. "At first glance, it seemed to be a clash between rival Shi'a groups seeking to monopolize power, and another indication of the extreme insecurity in Iraq, especially in Shi'a areas," the paper comments. But, this is not the

case.

According to witnesses, large amounts of weapons were distributed to people near the al-Sadr group's position, giving the impression that that group itself had been handing out arms. Among the weapons were some made in Iran--to leave a clear lead. The Iraqi Interior Ministry has conducted investigations into the event, concluding that the MKO was behind the incident.

The MKO is officially on the U.S. terrorist list, but is now being protected by the U.S. occupying forces there. It has been responsible for multiple attacks, including assassinations of leading politicians in Iran over the years. Offers by Iran to exchange al-Qaeda terrorists it holds in prisons, for MKO terrorists, were rejected by the U.S.

Mojahedin Khalq (Rajavi cult), A Tool in US's Psychological War on Iran

Al-Rai newspaper/

Rabi' Yahya,

translated by:

Iran Didban,

Oct 02, 2007

<http://www.irandidban.com/master-e.asp?ID=13799>

The new tactics of the US and France against Iran are focused on psychological war and using opposition groups as a tool.

Israeli intelligence

sources have acknowledged that the secret war on Iran's nuclear programs has intensified.

These sources, stressing that press conferences by Iranian opposition on Iran's nuclear program are not coincidental, said: "Secret services of the U.S. used the same tactics five years ago and gave their initial intelligence to the Iranian opposition to be announced in their press

meetings."

In a new press conference by Mehdi Abrishamchi, member of MKO, new claims were expressed on the existence of secret nuclear bases in Iran.

Referring to Abrishamchi's recent comments, Israeli sources said that they had been produced wholly by French and American secret services and the MKO was only used as an outlet.

Iraqi government seriously angered by the US

Iraqi government seriously angered by the US's conduct in supporting Mojahedin Khalq Terrorist group (Rajavi cult or Saddam's Private Army) in Ashraf camp in DIALY province against the will of the Iraqis

BBC Monitoring Middle East,

October 03, 2007

...

Q- A while ago, the Iraqi government had asked for the expulsion of Monafeqin [hypocrites; term used to describe opposition group Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization based in Iraq], but we are still witnessing their presence and the American support for them. What happened to this issue?

A- The position of the Iraqi government in expelling the Monafeqin group remains in place. Unfortunately, the American support for this group is obvious and against the will of the Iraqi government. The Iraqi government has announced that the area which is under American control should be returned to the government and ac-

ording to the legislation approved by the Iraqi government the members of this group must leave Iraq once the area is returned to the Iraqi government. Considering the very negative role that this group has had in the security situation of Dayaleh Province and intensifying the insecurities in this region, the government of Iraq is seriously angered by their conduct and is making efforts to take control of this issue.

...

Full Report:

Iranian envoy says US Senate's plan to "divide" Iraq against will of people

Text of interview conducted with Iranian ambassador to Iraq, Hasan Kazemi-Qomi by Ehsan Taqaddosi headlined "Tehran's dissatisfaction with American Senate's plan" published by Iranian newspaper Iran on 30 September

The plan to divide Iraq presented by the chairman of the American Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, Joseph Bayden, which was later approved has created a lot of controversy. This plan was presented at a time when the neoconservatives of the White House found all their strategies in Iraq unsuccessful and the Democrats stepped into the Iraq war policy room and

delivered the plan to divide Iraq. The Senate's plan for Iraq has been copied from the well-known Dayton Treaty in Bosnia, which in the eyes of the democrats, is a solution for controlling and ending the wave of violence in Iraq.

The Senate's plan recommends a federal government for Iraq that would include separate and autonomous Shi'i, Sunni and Kurdish regions.

Although this plan was immediately rejected by all Iraqi groups and figures but is still making headlines in Iraq. We have discussed this issue with our country's ambassador in Baghdad, Hasan Kazemi-Qomi which is as follows:

Q- What is the aim behind the Congress and Senate's plan?

A- The political system of Iraq has been defined based on the central and federal government within the framework of the constitution and the people of Iraq have confirmed this. According to the Iraqi constitution, each province or a combination of more than one province could submit their request for federalising that region. Given the cultural, social, political and economic structure of Iraq, naturally a political systems based on federalism could secure both the interests of social groups and the national interests of Iraq.

Iraqi government seriously angered by the US (cont)

Even the mechanism for materializing federalism has been included within the framework of the Iraqi constitution. What has been notable in terms of the people of Iraq and this country's constitution is safeguarding the solidarity, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq. Whatever, is outside the principles embodied in the constitution would be unacceptable in the view of the Iraqi people.

In addition to Iraqi people, the neighbouring countries of Iraq are also opposed to any division of Iraq under any circumstances as the Iraqi experience [the occupation] and the division of this country is neither in the expedience of the Iraqi people nor the countries of the region.

Q- Do you think this plan could be accepted inside Iraq?

A- The reaction of Iraq's political leaders and the people of this country to what was approved in the American Senate were strongly negative. In their view, this legislation was a kind of interference in Iraq's internal affairs and no political group in Iraq supported this plan.

Q- What thought and policy has the White House been pursuing in Iraq after the well-known Crocker-Petraeus report?

A- The report that was presented to the Congress by Crocker and Petraeus was in fact a staged scenario and had no new point that would have been derived from a new strategy. In the view of the Iraqi people, this report was not an Iraqi report but a report to eliminate the domestic problems of America. That is why it was received with indifference by the Iraqi people.

The Americans have not presented a new plan but what was seen in this report indicated that the Americans are after a long-term presence in Iraq and this issue is definitely in contradiction with the will of the people and government of Iraq.

Q- From now on, how would the Americans establish their relations with the Iraqi government in the diplomatic dimension?

A- From the Iraqi point of view, America must end its military presence in Iraq and define its relations with Iraq like other countries. The Iraqi government considers no concessions for America and is willing to have good and balanced relations with all countries and particularly its neighbouring countries. This also includes America - of course, without giving any special concessions. In addition, in the view of the Iraqi government the issue of the office for security affairs should be returned to the government.

Q- A while ago, the Iraqi government had asked for the expulsion of Monafeqin [hypocrites; term used to describe opposition group Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization based in Iraq], but we are still witnessing their presence and the American support for them. What happened to this issue?

A- The position of the Iraqi government in expelling the Monafeqin group remains in place. Unfortunately, the American support for this group is obvious and against the will of the Iraqi government. The Iraqi government has announced that the area which is under American control should be returned to the government and according to the legislation approved by the Iraqi government the members of this group must leave Iraq once the area is returned to the Iraqi government.

Considering the very negative role that this group has had in the security situation of Dayaleh Province and intensifying the insecurities in this region, the government of Iraq is seriously angered by their conduct and is making efforts to take control of this issue.

Source: Iran, Tehran, in Persian, on 30 Sept 07, p21

Psychological Techniques to Cultivate Ideology

Bahar Irani
Mojahedin.ws
Sep. 27, 2007

The ideological revolution within Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, or cult of Mojahedin, has led to so many changes in terms of internal relations of MKO. Mojahedin based the survival of the organization on the necessity for institutionalizing the components of the ideological revolution; before that, it was through providing due backgrounds and taking unique approaches. These adopted approaches, according to MKO ex-members, were similar to the techniques utilized by the past and contemporary cults and were applied as leverages to coerce insiders into absolute obedience to Rajavi's totalitarian and ideological leadership. Since the main objective behind the institution of the ideological revolution was a quantitative instillation of a new system of values, ethics and thought, then, appropriate techniques and approaches had to be implemented. Here are a number of them deduced from comments made by detached members:

1. **Shock**
2. **Accusation**

3. **Doubt**
4. **Subversion**
5. **Discharge**
6. **Illusion**
7. **Commitment**
8. **Repetition**
9. **Reformation**

Shock

Broaching the issue of Maryam and Massoud's marriage in the early meetings in order to raise ethical misapprehension indicates the function of shock in destabilizing the mental and ethical balance in MKO members. Since Mojahedin considered Rajavi as the symbol of ideological and political legitimacy, the issue of Maryam and Massoud's marriage came as a sudden strike of shock.

Accusation

Under the very impact of the sock, in an immediate reaction the members took an inevitable turn to accuse the elements of the shock. However, as the scenarists of the ideological revolution indicate, through the next phases the accusers turned to be the accused for materializing their mentality.

Doubt

The uppermost outcome intended in the mental and psychological imbalance and shock is raising

doubt in ethical, ideological, and political legitimacy in the members. The significance of this phase was due to the fact that no longer in organizational relations Masoud was taken into consideration. Moreover, members showed signs of dissatisfaction and considered him as an illegitimate leader. This phase was most important in the plan for materializing members' mentality and even detecting their contradictory views formed against leadership.

Subversion

The next phase made members believe that they are in contradiction with themselves. In this stage all members on account of the shown reaction to the early shock are accused of making compromise, incurring adversary and holding reactionary views against the leader. As a result, those who would rebuke the leadership found themselves to be in leader's debt.

Discharge

The sole solution for the members to be released of any accusations was to come to the point that every body had to develop an internal revolution. The

Psychological Techniques to Cultivate Ideology (cont)

first step to such a revolution was that all the hidden thoughts and mentalities of members against the leadership had to be thought over. Later on, such a mechanism was applied to dig out what was lying deep in members' mind.

Illusion

Discharge created the impression that members' mentality concerning the revolution and leadership had not been yet thoroughly cleansed. Members developed the illusion that due to their internal contradictions, they had to challenge themselves if they were to start an internal reformation. The internal challenge led them under the illusion that up to that time not only they had been of no use but also had been impediment to any progress. Consequently, they felt a strong need to be at-

tached to a new value system and outside element who was Massoud in this case.

Commitment

Commitment to the leader meant submission to a process that intended to draw individuals out of a nadir of wretchedness and endow them with a new identity that could only be acquired but through absolute submission to the new atmosphere and relations that deprived members of thinking and any other quest. The major step was the acceptance of the ideological leadership. Up to this phase, the members were convinced that they could not understand what happen around them; ideological leadership was to bear the sins of members and guaranteed their salvation if they were ideologically committed to him.

Repetition (internal control)

Now members had to follow new teachings. They had to undergo another novel process called 'current operation' wherein psychological and ethical mentalities of the members were scrutinized in order to resolve members' circumstantially encountered contradictions. In this phase, all the actions and thoughts of members came under strict control.

Reformation

Continuous control and scrutiny of members' mentality led to the development of a mechanism for reconstructing a new value system. In this phase, the members, unaware of the quality of the made changes, try to get rid of their past reactionary ideas and replace them with fresh thoughts suggested by others.

Some Useful Sites on MKO

<http://www.iran-interlink.org/>

<http://www.banisadr.info/index.htm>

<http://www.nejatngo.org/index.php>

<http://www.peyvand.tv/>

<http://www.mojahedin.ws/?cl=en>

<http://www.somayeh.org/>

<http://pars-iran.com/en/>

<http://iran-aawa.com/>

<http://www.iran-ghalam.de/10english/english.HTM>

<http://talash-online.com/index.php>

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Elaheh obituary - Times Online

TIMES ONLINE

From The Times
August 31, 2007

Elaheh

Iranian vocalist whose songs are ingrained in the culture despite a ban on women singers

Elaheh was one of the best known female vocalists in Iran before the 1979 revolution. Her singing career spanned more than half a century and included several performances for the popular National Radio programme Golha, which was host to many highly esteemed Iranian vocalists. During this time she collaborated with famous Iranian composers and soloists, and the fruits of these collaborations include some of the most popular songs in classical Persian music. She also performed at the Albert Hall, London.

Her best-known songs works include Rosvayeh Zamaneh (Revealed to the World) and Az khoon-e Javanan-e Vatan Laleh Damideh (Tulips grow from the blood of the country's youth). Her songs were used in the first radio pro-

gramme on air announcing the new republic. After the Islamic revolution, however, her singing career, like those of many other female singers, came to an abrupt end when female vocalists were banned from public performances. Elaheh then fled the country for the US, where she worked in Los Angeles during the 1980s and 1990s.

While living abroad Elaheh's career took a controversial turn when she collaborated with the exiled group Mujahidin, which she later denounced as more of an "extremely narrow and strict cult" than an intellectual organisation of freedom fighters.

In an interview with Anne Singleton in September 2005, Elaheh stated that she was lured into collaboration with the Mujahidin through one of its satellite organisations based in Europe. She describes how she was stuck in that situation for several years, unable to perform freely while the Mujahidin failed to

meet its full financial commitments to her. Elaheh finally denounced the organisation in 2003 and returned to Iran three months ago where she died of cancer.

Elaheh's legacy is her much-loved voice and songs which many people, old and young alike, still remember and sing. Last week the National Radio aired a one-hour programme of her songs; it was the first show to feature a female singer in 27 years. And she is to be recognised in Iran for her contribution to music. Elaheh once stated: "What I am sure of is that my legacy is my voice and that for years to come people will enjoy my voice and my songs. These belong to Iran and the world of music."

She was married three times; two husbands survive her as well as four sons and one daughter.

Bahar Gholam Hosseini, better known as Elaheh, singer, was born on April 7, 1934. She died on August 15, 2007, aged 73