

Nejat Newsletter

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Future of the Ashraf Base

The **Sahar Family Foundation SFF** in Iraq which is a non-governmental anti-cult organization tries to help the families and the victims of the MKO terrorist cult.

The SFF has thoroughly studied the destructive cult of Massoud Rajavi and his wife Maryam and their base in the Ashraf garrison in Iraq.

<http://www.saharngo.com/en-index.html>

The SFF has issued

several statements regarding the fact that the Iraqi administration is righteously trying to hold control over the headquarters of the cult.

In an article titled **“Ashraf Base in Iraq, from inside and from outside”** it is shown that the Ashraf base facility in Iraq has several advantaged for the MKO as an isolated cult. In this article we read: **“Then the Ashraf base is an opportunity from inside to**

preserve and control the forces and is an opportunity from outside for propaganda.”

The article then deals with this question that **“But what would happen if the Ashraf Base is dismantled?”** Then after discussing this question it concludes that **“In one word the cult would loose its main vessel and without that no content of the MKO would exist.”**

How many women of PMOI have reached the summit?

Fars News Agency October 19 2008

New details on the Unfertilization Plan of MKO to promote the ranks of women in the cult

A former member of MKO, in Iraq said: The people's Mujahedin of Iran does hysterectomy surgeries on women ranks and file and promotes them to the Ideal Summit [total devo-

tion to leader] .They have made 150 women barren so far.

Mrs. Batoul Soltani (43) who has a 20-year experience of membership in MKO and worked professionally and actively in Iraq, Britain and France and mounted to the rank of the leadership council of PMOI, participated a press meeting among foreign journalists of

Iraq answering the FNA's correspondent's questions.

At the beginning she explained the recruitment methods that the group uses to increase the number of members and said that she joined the organization due to her adolescence ideas that needed to be filled by political activities.

MEPs intrigued by accounts of newly arrived escapees from Camp Ashraf

Discussion of the Mojahedin-e Khalq/National Council of Resistance and its activities in the EU Parliament:

... Ms Ebrahimi said she saw Mr Paulo Casaca when he visited Camp Ashraf. We were not allowed to approach him and speak to him, she explained to delegates. If they had somewhere to go, she told delegates, without doubt ninety-nine percent of the people in Camp Ashraf would leave the camp and the MKO...

Reported from EU Parliament, Sep. 09, 2008

On Tuesday 9 September a meeting was held by the Delegation for Relations with Iran in the European Parliament. The meeting focused on 'Discussion of the Mojahedin-e Khalq/National Council of Resistance and its activities in an exchange of views with:

Ms Anne Singleton expert on the MKO

Representative of the NCR (declined invitation)

Three Residents of Ashraf Refugee Camp who arrived from Iraq in the last couple of weeks: Ms. Ebrahimi, Mr. Hassan Piransar and Mr. Hamid Siah Mansoori.

Also present were former MKO members Karim Haggi, Mohammad Sobhani, Hadi Shams Haeri and Ali Ghashghavi, who accompanied the new arrivals to provide support to these vulnerable people.

Ms Angelika Beer, President of the Iran Delegation (Greens/EFA), began by describing the MKO and its activities up to the present time.

Anne Singleton briefly described her own involvement with the MKO for over twenty years.

Asserting that the MKO will not give up the use of violence to achieve its aims, Ms Singleton went on to explain why, in spite of that, she believes that the MKO

has currently little to do with the Iranian political scene, but that precisely because it is a cult, its danger is that it interferes in parliamentary democracy in western countries in ways that may even involve criminal activity.

Whilst agreeing that the MKO's platform of 'total regime change' in Iran could be attractive to some politicians in the west, Ms Singleton challenged the delegates to consider whether the MKO would be able to achieve its stated aim – 'will it do what it says on the tin'? Since its last major offensive against Iran in 1988, the MKO has achieved little to further its aims.



She told delegates that they should also consider the possibility that, even if they believe the MKO has changed tactic and intends to pursue its aims only through political opposition, the MKO may not actually be 'fit for purpose' She urged them to consider the evidence of the three former residents of Camp Ashraf who have arrived in Europe from Iraq only in the past few weeks, and who would speak later in the meeting about conditions inside the MKO.

Ms Singleton asserted that Iranian people – as those delegates who have visited Iran are aware – are not waiting to be rescued by the MKO and are capable of opposing their own government. Iranian women are not waiting to be taught about feminism by Maryam Rajavi who leads an organisation which – as Batul Ebrahimi will testify - badly abuses women members.

Then Ms Singleton described the current situation of the MKO in

Iraq. Control of Camp Ashraf, the MKO's headquarters, has been transferred from the American military to the Iraqi military. Ms Singleton said that Iraqi government officials are angry at reports which suggest that the MKO would be 'massacred' if the Americans handed over Camp Ashraf.

Instead, the people inside the camp are facing a humanitarian crisis because they are not allowed even basic freedoms such as the right to enjoy contact and visits from their families. A rumour has arisen that the Americans have removed around 300 of those captive in Camp Ashraf and left the others. Ms Singleton said that if this is the case then she would consider the remaining 3000 individuals in Camp Ashraf to be ex-members of the MKO. They should be brought to western countries as soon as possible.

Finally, Ms Singleton presented delegates with one solution to the crisis at Camp Ashraf, remove the MKO from the European terrorist list and bring ALL 3,300 residents to Europe where those who are mentally, physically and emotionally sick would be able to receive help.

Ms Singleton finished by reminding delegates that continuing support for the MKO would, of course, mean that the European Parliament accepted to have a cult operating in its midst and continuing to interfere in parliamentary democracy. However, if that is the decision to be made, then so be it.

Ms Beer thanked Anne Singleton for her contribution and asked the three recently arrived, former Camp Ashraf residents to speak.

Ms Ebrahimi (speaking in Farsi) told delegates that she had gone to Camp Ashraf when she was sixteen years old and although she quickly realised she wanted to leave, she was captive there for another ten years. She described conditions for women in the camp.

MEPs intrigued by accounts of newly arrived escapees from Camp Ashraf

Not only does the MKO not allow women to marry, women are made to work in the scorching sun for hours at a time so their complexions are ruined and they become ugly. This is so they do not develop the vanity to think they could be attractive to a man, she told delegates.

In order to remove hope from the women of ever having a family, they are being sent under surgery for spurious medical conditions to have their wombs removed [hysterectomy] and around ten percent of women in Camp Ashraf have now undergone this surgery. When they tried to impose it on her, Ms Ebrahimi ran away. She begged delegates to take doctors to Camp Ashraf to check the veracity of what she was telling them.

The MKO told her that if she left the camp and went with the American soldiers, they would rape her. For this reason it took two years before she was able to have the courage to escape.

Ms Ebrahimi said she saw Mr Paulo Casaca when he visited Camp Ashraf. We were not allowed to approach him and speak to him, she explained to delegates. If they had somewhere to go, she told delegates, without doubt ninety-nine percent of the people in Camp Ashraf would leave the camp and the MKO.

Mr Hamid Siah Mansoori (speaking English) told delegates he had been in the MKO for over twenty five years. He described how he had gone to Iraq from Canada. He had a good education, and a good life in Canada and had his own business before leaving everything behind in the mid 1980s to go to Iraq. He then described the MKO's attitude to family. He said no one is allowed to contact their family, except in a few cases where people were told to contact their family to get money from them. He said the MKO told his family he was dead. They came to look for

him five years ago – at the beginning of the American occupation – but were told he was dead.

Mr Hamid Siah Mansoori said he had arrived only a week ago, but had lost any contact details for his family. Nevertheless, his first priority now was to make contact with his parents and the rest of his family.



Ms Beer asked delegates if they had questions. One delegate asked how the MKO continued to be financed which allowed them to continue to undertake such expensive campaigns in parliament and elsewhere. Another delegate asked for more detail about the role of the Americans in supporting Camp Ashraf when the US State Department so strongly describes them as a terrorist group.



Anne Singleton answered these questions, pointing out that during the reign of Saddam Hussein the MKO had received almost unlimited finance from Saddam Hussein, as well as from Saudi Arabia and some western governments from behind the scene. Now, however, although it is clear that MKO finances are dwindling somewhat, it was unclear how the MKO could continue to spend so much money,

and the only people to answer that are the MKO themselves.

Ms Singleton pointed out a five year rift in policy toward the MKO between the US State Department – which has a very thorough knowledge of the MKO – and the US Defense Department under Donald Rumsfeld. Some in the US Administration wanted to use the MKO in confronting Iran and therefore Camp Ashraf has been protected by the US military in Iraq for five years. Ms Singleton conceded that this protection was beneficial in keeping the MKO out of danger in the midst of a war zone. But that the Americans had also flouted the UN Fourth Geneva protocol by not allowing MKO to meet their families and not enabling them to leave the situation.

Ms Beer then introduced Mr Mohammad Sobhani who had previously addressed the Delegation. Following that meeting he had been the subject of unfounded accusations of having attacked MKO members in Paris. Instead, Mr Sobhani was the victim of a violent attack when some fifty MKO supporters ambushed a meeting at which Mr Sobhani was a speaker.

Following this, Mr Hadi Shams Haeri briefly pleaded with delegates to help him have contact with his children whom he has not been allowed to see for eighteen years. He asked that Mr Paulo Casaca accompany him to Camp Ashraf and help him meet with them again.

At the end of the meeting Ms Beer expressed her appreciation for the speakers and said it had been a valuable meeting. One which, given the ongoing situation at Camp Ashraf, might soon be repeated.

After the meeting, several of the attendees stopped to talk to the visitors – in particular the three who had just arrived from Iraq – and asked them to keep them informed of developments.

Nejat Society Visits Geneva With Camp Ashraf Rescue Plan

Reuters, Wed Sep 17, 2008



<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUS141307+17-Sep-2008+PRN20080917>

GENEVA, Switzerland,

September 17

A delegation from Nejat Society in Iran is in Geneva this week to participate in sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council and to meet with delegations from other international human rights organizations.

Their aim is to prevent further political abuse of Mojahedin-e Khalq (MKO, MEK, NCRI) members in Camp Ashraf held captive by their leaders, and guarantee the individual rights of those who renounce violence and are willing to return to society.

The delegation has also concerns about the removal from the camp of about 300 high ranking MKO members (wanted by Interpol) by the US army.

Nejat Society delegation comprises: Mr. Babak Amin, Mr. Arash Sametipoor, Ms. Marjan Malek and Ms. Ronak Dashti.

Arash Sametipoor said "the most serious threat to those left in Camp Ashraf comes from the MKO cult's leaders, Mas-

soud and Maryam Rajavi. They will want to use their blood to extricate themselves from this crisis."

Babak Amin explained: "For over twenty years Ashraf has been inaccessible to the outside world. This has allowed the Rajavis to do whatever they liked behind closed doors. It is necessary now for humanitarian agencies to enter the camp to investigate what is really going on there. We need to discover how widespread the human rights abuses against the members are."



Now that the Iraqi government, the ICRC and UN human rights and refugee agencies have access to the remaining people in Camp Ashraf, Nejat is asking for their immediate protection.

Arash Sametipoor said, "Because these people have been abandoned by the MKO leaders, they must be considered now as ex-members of the terrorist cult.

It is clear the Iraqi authorities

will not cooperate with the MKO to further suppress their members. We urge humanitarian agencies to now visit Camp Ashraf and restore basic human rights to the people trapped there."

Nejat Society wants every individual person in Camp Ashraf to be given the opportunity to decide for themselves - without pressure or interference from MKO personnel - whether they want to continue wearing military uniform, or whether they want to take off their military uniform and renounce violence.

They should be given access to external information, internet, radio, television, books, newspapers and conversation. Above all, the people in Camp Ashraf must be helped to contact their families and enjoy family visits as soon as possible.

"Contact with their families re-connects the cult member with their emotions and provides a trustworthy frame of reference in which they can

reassess what the cult is telling them", explained Babak Amin.

Mojahedin leaders, Massoud and Maryam Rajavi, and other leading members who have escaped the camp should be arrested and brought to justice through international courts.

Nejat Society believes that when the residents of Camp Ashraf are treated as individuals they will find places to go, especially if their families can be involved in helping them.

Deciding the fate of the Mujahedin (MKO, MEK,...)

**Trita Parsi, Washinton times,
October 5, 2008**

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/oct/05/deciding-the-fate-of-the-mujahedin-80160510/>

The Bush administration inherited many of Iraq's problems when it invaded that country, including an Iranian terrorist organization funded and armed by [Saddam Hussein](#), the [Mujahedin-e Khalq](#) (MKO). Though in the midst of a war on terror, the Bush administration chose in 2003 to protect 3,000 of the organization's militants and house them in a camp given to the group by Saddam — Camp Ashraf just north of Baghdad.

Ever since, the faith of this State Department-listed terrorist organization has been unclear. Hated by Iraqis for its involvement in Saddam's crimes against the Iraqi people, the Baghdad government wants to expel the group. But no country is willing to take them.

Though the Iranian government wants to put the group's leadership on trial in [Iran](#), it seems less interested in the organization's rank and file. The European governments have little interest in taking in 3,000 battle-hardened Muslim militants, fearing that they will use Europe as a base to plan and execute further terrorist attacks.

The U.S., on the other hand, has already contradicted its own principles by giving preferential treatment to an organization on the State Department's terrorist list — even though [President Bush](#) himself pointed to the organization's patronage under Saddam Hussein as evidence of Iraq's support for international terrorists in his speech to the United Nations in September 2002.

"Iraq continues to shelter and support terrorist organizations that direct violence against Iran," President Bush said. To complicate matters further, if reports that the U.S. has used MKO terrorists for cross-border raids into Iran are true, then Washington certainly doesn't want these militants to end up in Iranian hands.

Washington seems doomed if it does,

doomed if it doesn't.

Members of the terrorist organization have protested outside the White House this past week, angered by the Bush administration's decision to hand over Camp Ashraf to the Iraqi government. The government of Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki will surrender the MKO members to Tehran, they argue, who in turn will imprison and execute them.

Though approximately 500 MKO fighters have been repatriated to Iran and no reports of abuse have emerged according to the International Committee of the Red Cross, which oversaw their return, sending rank-and-file Mujahedin members to Iran against their will would be irresponsible.

The Washington Times

Hated by the Iranian people for having fought on Saddam's side in the Iraq-Iran war, the Iranian Mujahedin is understandably fearful of the fate awaiting them in Iran. After all, the Iranian government systematically violates the human rights of journalists and union leaders alike, let alone anti-Iranian terrorists.

Yet, contrary to the protesters outside the White House, the issue is not a choice between freedom in Camp Ashraf and captivity in Iran.

The Mujahedin is not an effective opposition to the unpopular government in Iran as the organization's defenders in Washington claim, but a politico-religious cult that brainwashes its members, places children of Mujahedin members with other families in order to prevent parents from defecting, and who according to Human Rights Watch, maintains control by torturing its rank and file. "Members who try to leave the Mujahedin pay a very heavy price," according to Joe Stork of Human Rights Watch.

Its involvement in terrorism is undisputed. It assassinated several Americans in Iran in the 1970s. It supported the taking of the U.S. Embassy in Iran and blasted Ayatollah Khomeini for

releasing the American diplomats in 1981, arguing instead that the hostages should have been executed. It made a pact with Saddam Hussein in the 1980s and fought alongside his army against their Iranian countrymen. Later in the 1990s, they became Saddam's most trusted henchmen, tasked with quelling Kurdish and Shiite uprisings against the Iraqi dictator.

According to defectors, Mujahedin members in Camp Ashraf celebrated the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

In 2004, French authorities descended upon the Mujahedin headquarters in France, arresting the leader of the cult,

Maryam Rajavi. Immediately, zealous Mujahedin members staged hunger strikes and several set themselves ablaze. Hardly the behavior of a democratically oriented opposition group.

But the vast majority of the Camp Ashraf residents are not so much members of a terrorist cult as they are victims of it. The camp is itself a prison. It may have provided Mujahedin militants

with protection against ordinary Iraqis who sought to avenge their relatives killed by the Mujahedin at the behest of Saddam Hussein, but the prison has primarily enabled the leaders of the terrorist organization to prevent the rank and file from defecting.

Rather than debating where to expel the Mujahedin terrorists, help should be provided to the rank and file to break with the cult and make free choices about their future. It's the only humanitarian solution to this dilemma - and one that defeats rather than protects this anti-American terrorist group.

• Trita Parsi is president and founder of the National Iranian American Council and author of "Traacherous Alliances: The Secret Dealings of Israel, Iran, and the United States."

[Human Rights Abuses Inside the Mojahedin Khalq Camps \(HRW, May 2005\)](#)
[\(Rajavi cult Headed by Massoud Rajavi Marvayam Rajavi\)](#)



Ashraf – when is a city not a city?

**Iran-Interlink,
September 12, 2008**

Apparently we - the 'rest of the world', that is - are not 'allowed' to refer to Camp Ashraf as anything other than Ashraf City. Says who? Says Massoud Rajavi, leader-in-hiding of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq organisation (MKO, MEK, aka Rajavi cult). Why?

Well, the MKO's military camp is now under the control of the Iraqi government. American forces handed it over this week. In spite of a deeply insulting scaremongering campaign by the MKO, which claimed that the Iraqis would stage a 'Srebrenica-style massacre' if they got their (dirty, barbaric) hands on the MKO, the handover to Iraqi military personnel has gone ahead, as planned, without incident.

The Iraqi government will now work with MNF and international agencies to find a satisfactory solution to the illegal presence of foreign terrorists in its territory.

The MKO response to the inevitable loss of its main base for ideological indoctrination has been interesting. Aside from the 'massacre' tactic, the group has also gone all out for an ostrich-like

pretence that it is not really a uniformed military group and that the people in Camp Ashraf – sorry, 'Ashraf City' – are just like ordinary citizens living in a small, thriving town.

Last week, Iranians were amused to watch Voice of America television when it gave air time to MKO spokesman Alireza Jafarzadeh. In the programme Jafarzadeh extolled in glowing terms the great achievement of the MKO in creating this wonderful "city" and described the facilities 'enjoyed' by the MKO there.

Without contradicting his words, let us have a little glimpse at this 'city' and compare it with our own towns and cities, the places we all live and work and send our kids to school.

Ashraf has an extensive cemetery but no maternity hospital has huge, well-equipped salons for mass meetings but no arrangements to register or celebrate marriages or births has (gender segregated) swimming pools but no nurseries, primary schools or high schools and no playgrounds has prisons but no court of law has strictly enforced regulations (including compulsory hijab) but no council elections has gas sta-

tions (segregated, with different opening times for men and women) but no place to drive residents work up to 18 hours a day but there is no bank because they don't get paid - unpaid workers need no shops – they have no money to buy anything residents only wear military uniforms – so there are no shops to buy pretty dresses and make-up, or smart suits or casuals has air-conditioned, gender segregated accommodation but no hotels for visitors from out of town to visit their families has no internet cafes, no newspaper deliveries, no radio or television sets for individual use, no satellite channels to choose from has no public telephones and no mobile phones Is anyone allowed to keep a pet? Does this sound like the town you live in, or would want to live in? No?

So when is a city not a city? When it's a cult's military and ideological headquarters of course.

Over forty people who have escaped from Camp Ashraf have arrived in Europe in the past few weeks. They are happy to talk about current conditions inside the MKO. Please contact Iran-Interlink for further details.

Iraq urges US to stop backing MKO Terrorist Group

June 17, 2008

Press TV

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=60407§ionid=351020201>

Iraq bans any deal with the members of the Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO), calling on the US to stop supporting the terrorist group.

"The Cabinet decided to ban any dealings with this organization by any Iraqi or foreign individual, organization or

party," a statement said on Tuesday.

In the statement, the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said the Mujahedeen Khalq Organization is meddling in the country's internal affairs and supporting anti-government activities.

The statement warned that those who violate the order will face charges under the anti-terror law.

Earlier today, Iraq's main political blocs in the parliament

demanding the expulsion of the MKO members from the country.

Before the US-led invasion in 2003, the Mujahedeen Khalq Organization had enjoyed Saddam Hussein's support.

After the US-led invasion of the country the US put the group's members under protection in a northern part of Iraq amid reports that they had been used for by Washington for espionage and violence-related activities.

MKO, 'another version of al-Qaeda'

Fri, 26 Sep 2008

Press TV

A spokesman for the family members of terrorism victims in Iran says the Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) is simply an earlier version of al-Qaeda.

Iraj Moradi, the spokesman for the Edaalat Society, which represents over 12,000 relatives of Iranian victims of terrorism, said the MKO and al-Qaeda use the same methods to lure their members into carrying out terrorist attacks.

Iraj is the son of Ebrahim Moradi, a blacksmith who was assassinated by the MKO in June 1984.

The Mujahedin Khalq Organization is a terrorist group banned by many countries including the US. It has claimed respon-

sibility for numerous terror attacks inside Iran and Iraq since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

At a recent UN human rights conference in Geneva, Edaalat Society revealed documents highlighting the extent of MKO activities in Iran as well as the group's cooperation with former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

The MKO has long been charged with assisting Saddam in the massacre of thousands of Iraqi civilians.

A British envoy, who has received the documents, asked the delegation to shed light on MKO crimes in a visit to the UK - where a British court has dropped the MKO from its blacklist of terrorist organizations.

"Edaalat Society does not seek revenge," said Sepehri, the

daughter of another Iranian victim.

"Branding some terrorists 'good' and some 'bad' would legitimize their actions and provide a pretext for their existence," she said referring to the recent UK court ruling.

She added that is why the MKO has continued its existence.

According to Sepehri who is the official spokesman for the Edaalat Society, terrorists are sick people who are suffering from hallucinations due to the cult-like structure of their organizations and could be cured if they were freed from the mind-control tactics of their leaders.

A delegation of the Edaalat (Justice) Society has recently visited Geneva to attend the UN human rights summit and meet NGOs and rights groups.

Mojahedin Khalq on the run

Massoud Khodabandeh and Arash Sametipoor join live from Geneva

4 corners,

Press TV,



September 18, 2008

<http://www.presstv.ir/Programs/#1>

Massoud Khodabandeh and Arash Sametipoor who are attending the UN Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva, Participate in a discussion about the future of Camp Ashraf after hand over to the Iraqi Government.

(The recorded video file is 44.04 minutes. the discussion on MKO starts in the second part of the programm. 22.56 min)

<http://www.presstv.ir/Programs/player/?id=69853>



Useful sits on the MKO

<http://www.saharngo.com/>

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

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

<http://www.mojahedin.ws/>

<http://www.negaheno.net/>

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

<http://www.rahai.nl/>

<http://www.theblackfile.com/>

<http://www.ariairan.com/>

<http://www.terror-victims.com/>

<http://www.iran-ghalam.de/>

<http://www.parwaaz.com/>

International law to determine MKO fate

Tue, 02 Sep 2008

Press TV

The Iraqi government says the country will deal with the anti-Iran Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) based on international regulations.

Ali al-Dabbagh, Iraq's government spokesman, said that his country is seeking to gain full control of the terrorist group's Camp Ashraf from US forces.

The comment comes as the Iraqi military forces have surrounded the camp since Wednesday night.

The Ashraf Camp in Diyala province was the headquarters of the MKO members during the reign of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, but has been converted to a

training center for MKO terrorists under the US control since the 2003 invasion of the country.

The Iraqi official warned the ter-



Ali al-Dabbagh, Iraq's government spokesman

rorist group against engaging in any political activities inside the country.

"Iraq will support voluntarily return of MKO members to Iran or

any other countries," Dabbagh said adding "Iraq will not consider expelling MKO members forcefully from the country and will deal with them according to international regulations."

Along with at least six other sites in Iraq, Camp Ashraf was given to the MKO as their headquarters and training site by the former US-backed Iraqi dictator.

It was from this base the MKO launched operations against Iran during the Iran-Iraq war and later assisted Saddam in violently suppressing the Iraqi Kurds during the 1991 uprising.

The MKO is blacklisted by many countries including EU member states as a terrorist organization. The group has claimed responsibility for hundreds of terror attacks inside Iran.

Pardoned ex-MKO members return to Iran

Sat, 06 Sep 2008

Press TV

Senior Iranian diplomat says Tehran has pardoned several former members of the MKO terror group, allowing them to return to the country.

"During the past two years, numerous members of the Mujahedin-e-Khalq Organization have abandoned the MKO base. They have also expressed regret for their past actions," Iran's Ambassador to Baghdad, Hassan Kazemi-Qomi, said on Saturday.

"Iran has pardoned a number of these people, allowing them to return to the country and their families," he added.

Iran, Iraq, Canada, the United States, and the European Union recognize the Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) as a terrorist group.

The group is responsible for bombings, killings, and attacks against Iranian government officials and

civilians over the past 30 years, including the assassination of the late president Mohammad-Ali Rajaei, prime minister Bahonar and judiciary chief Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti.



Iran's Ambassador to Baghdad, Hassan Kazemi-Qomi

The MKO is also known to have cooperated with Iraq's US-backed former dictator Saddam Hussein in suppressing the 1991 uprisings in southern Iraq and the massacre of Iraqi Kurds.

On Tuesday, Iraq's government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said that his country is seeking to gain

full control of the terrorist group's Camp Ashraf from US forces. The comment came after the Iraqi military forces surrounded the camp on Wednesday.

Situated in Iraq's Diyala province, Camp Ashraf was used as an MKO base during the rule of Saddam Hussein. Following the 2003 occupation of Iraq the camp--under US control-- was converted to an MKO training center.

In August, the Iraqi parliament passed a resolution setting a six-month deadline for an MKO departure from the country, threatening expulsion.

Iraq's Government Spokesman, Ali al-Dabbagh, Tuesday modified the stance, saying that the country will support the voluntarily return of MKO members to Iran or any other country. He added that Baghdad will not expel MKO members forcefully, and will deal with them according to international regulations.

A Camp Ashraf in France

**Mojahedin.ws,
October 3, 2008**

http://www.mojahedin.ws/news/text_news_en.php?id=1828

Once and following the French police raid against MKO's HQs in Auvers-sur-Oise, M. Bousquet de Florian, the director of French counter-intelligence, confirmed that many MKO leaders had returned to France since the American intervention in Iraq to turn "Auvers-sur-Oise into an operational headquarters for terrorism". It was hard to believe what he meant. The Camp Ashraf once turned into a bastion of terrorist plots and operational headquarters heavily supported by Saddam, now MKO needed new HQs the patron being fallen.

Reported by VO news on 24 September 2008, a number of elected representatives of Val-d'Oise gathered to support the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK). As the report states, "sixty mayors of Val-d'Oise support the PMOI, main opposition to the regime to the mullahs in Tehran. All are demanding the withdrawal of the Iranian Resistance from the list of terrorist organizations of the European Union".

In its 8 October 2006 edition, the paper Al Irak Al-Yom wrote: "72 sheikhs and leaders of the tribes in the vicinity of Ashraf City, while supporting the charter of honor of the tribal sheikhs of all the Province of Diyali which states that the People's Mojahedin are honorary citizens and members of their tribes, signed a new

charter in which they undertake the defense of Ashraf City against all threats constituted from the ruling regime in Iran. They emphasized that any attack against the People's Mojahedin and Ashraf City amounted to an attack against themselves, their families and their tribes".

Now the Province of Diyali in Iraq becomes known as Val-d'Oise in France in the same way that the mayors of Val-d'Oise replace the Iraqi sheikhs and tribe leaders. Has France really accented to the formation of another Camp Ashraf in the heart of the country?

[Human Rights Abuses Inside the Mojahedin Khalq Camps \(HRW, May 2005\)](#)
[Rajavi cult Headed by Mas-soud Rajavi and Maryam Rajavi](#)

Resolution ratified by the Iraqi Administration on the MKO

In the Name of God

Number: 216, Year: 2008

The Iraqi Administration, in its 27th ordinary session held on 17th June 2008, ratified the followings: To approve the binding measures described below regarding terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO):

1. Emphasizing on past resolutions regarding the MKO as a terrorist organization and its expulsion from Iraq.
2. Putting the MKO, currently on Iraqi territory, under full control of the Iraqi government until

they are expelled from the country. In this respect any interaction with them must be done according to the Iraqi laws.

3. Any interaction with the terrorist MKO by any organization or party or establishment or entity (whether Iraqi or foreigner) inside Iraq is forbidden and anyone having any interaction with them (breaching the law) is liable of being prosecuted according to the terrorist acts of the country.

4. It is essential that the multinational forces to give up the organization and hand over all check points and points of obser-

vation to the responsible Iraqi authorities.

5. Activating the judicial sentences issued against the terrorist MKO elements who have committed crimes against the Iraqi people.

6. Cooperating with the ICRC in order to find basic real solutions for the problem of the presence of the MKO in the Iraqi territory and to activate the past resolutions about their expulsion from Iraq.

Ali Mohsin Ismail.

The Secretary of the Iraqi Administration

Iraq: No country willing to take MKO

Mon, 22 Sep 2008



Iraq's ambassador to Iran says so far no country in the world has agreed to shelter the dissident members of the US-backed MKO terrorist group.

According to International Law, the outlawed Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) should be handed over to any country which is prepared to harbor its members, Ambassador Mohammad Majid Al-Sheikh told Fars News Agency.

However, no government has so far expressed willingness to admit the group into their country, al-Sheikh added. Baghdad has issued a six-month deadline for the MKO to leave the Iraqi soil.

He ruled out the possibility of extraditing MKO members to

Tehran saying according to International Law, Iraq is not allowed to force the members to return to Iran.



**Iraq envoy to Tehran
Mohammad Majid Al-Sheikh**

Al-Sheikh explained that any a member who is willing to return to Iran, should be handed over to the Red Cross, and the movement would then deliver them to Iran.

Al-Sheikh said that the Iraqi forces will soon take control of the Mujahedin group enclave, a small area about 60 km (35 miles) north of Baghdad.

"The MKO members are not allowed to exit the camp, nor they are not permitted to use arms," the ambassador said.

He added that Iraqi officials would hold meetings with the group members to persuade them to return to Iran, in case they were reject by all the other countries.

The dissident group leaders which are accountable for assassinating officials in Iran following the 1979 Islamic Revolution are based in France, but some 3,000 members of the group reside in Iraq.

Backed by the United States and the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hossein, the group has used its northern Iraq enclave - Ashraf - to launch military incursion against Iran.

The MKO is blacklisted as a terrorist group by a majority of the European Union member states as well as the United States.

Ashraf camp captives. Ask yourselves What kind of city is this?

... He emphasised that mass of misinformation issued by the Rajavis and their backers such as Robin Corbett, Paulo Casaca and Struan Stevenson, is aimed at keeping human rights organisations out of Camp Ashraf so that Massoud and Maryam Rajavi can continue their inhuman mistreatment of their captives behind closed doors...

**Hassan Piransar,
Paris, October 02, 2008**

Mr. Hassan Piransar arrived in Europe a few weeks ago. He is one of the former executive members

of the MKO who managed to escape Camp Ashraf by taking refuge with American forces in the TIFP which was established to help peo-



ple escape the cult. When TIFP was closed earlier this year, Mr Piransar made his way through Iraqi Kurdistan and on to freedom in the west where he is now a political refugee due to his opposition

to the MKO and the IRI.

As one of the executive members, he has experienced and witnessed the many abuses and deceptions practiced by the Rajavis not only toward outsiders but in particular against their own members. He attended a meeting of the Iran Delegation of the European Parliament on September 9, 2008 to ask that Camp Ashraf be opened up to humanitarian bodies and that the people trapped inside be rescued. He emphasised that mass of misinformation issued by the Rajavis and their backers such as Robin Corbett, Paulo Casaca and Struan Stevenson, is aimed at keeping human rights organisations out of Camp Ashraf so that Massoud and Maryam Rajavi can continue their inhuman mistreatment of their captives behind closed doors.

OPINION - America's tough decision on Iran's dissidents

By John Hughes

The Christian Science Monitor, September 18, 2008

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0918/p09s02-coop.html>

In a dusty little enclave about 60 miles north of Baghdad, some 3,800 opponents of the Iranian regime present a difficult problem for the next American president.

The Iranians, members of the People's Mujahideen of Iran (PMOI), who once mounted military operations against the Tehran regime from sanctuary in Saddam Hussein's Iraq, have been disarmed and placed under the protection of American forces since the US invasion of Iraq. To add to the confusion, some Iraqi sources say Iraqi troops have deployed to "protect the camp, not to seize it."

But the withdrawal of American forces from Iraq is now under discussion. With that withdrawal in prospect, Iran is pressing for the fighters, the military arm of the Paris-based National Council of Resistance of Iran, to be returned to Iran, or at least turned over to the Iraqi government, which it believes would do Tehran's bidding. Understandably, the dissidents fear that either outcome would mean their imprisonment, torture, or death.

Whether it be President McCain or President Obama handling it, the future US relationship with Iran is perhaps the most pressing international issue he will face. The clock is ticking as Iran speeds enrichment of uranium for what it declares is a peaceful civilian nuclear program, but which the US and a substantial number of other nations allege is the pursuit of nuclear-weapons capability. The two candidates have differing views about how to deal with Iran, but both have declared their resolve that Iran should not develop nuclear weaponry.

To hand over the Mujahideen to a cruel fate at the hands of Iran would probably cause an outcry among the American public, and in the US Congress, where the for-

mer Iranian fighters have substantial support. Indeed, they are credited by US sources with having provided earlier accurate information about clandestine Iranian nuclear facilities. But not to accede to Tehran's demand to hand them over could hinder any broader negotiations for less tension in the US-Iran relationship.

Refugee status in the US might seem an obvious solution to the problem. But in another bizarre twist, the Iranian Mujahideen members, who are considered "protected persons" under the Geneva Convention by US forces in their "Camp Ashraf" north of Baghdad, are actually listed as a terrorist organization by the US State



Department. They allegedly supported the takeover of the US Embassy in Tehran in 1979.

British courts and the European Court of Justice have ordered that the PMOI be removed from their respective lists of proscribed organizations.

Standard diplomatic procedure requires the White House to assert that, in the basket of pressure tactics on Iran, military action is always an option. Both presidential candidates have echoed that line. The reality is that both the State Department and the Pentagon know that an airstrike against Iran's nuclear facilities would be a political catastrophe and could not guarantee eliminating some of the facilities buried deep underground. Predictably, the State Department favors diplomacy and has been trying some initiatives of a conciliatory nature. It is trailing in front of the Iranians the prospect of a US Interests Section in Tehran, a step short of an embassy

and diplomatic recognition. Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad reportedly has said he would welcome this.

Another gesture was the first-time dispatch of a senior US diplomat, Undersecretary of State William Burns, to join six-nation, face-to-face talks with the Iranians. Then, after Mr. Burns had suggested sports exchanges might help rebuild bridges, the Iranian national basketball team was admitted to play NBA teams in Salt Lake City and Dallas. The fate of the Mujahideen may be an unwelcome and untimely issue.

Various Iraqi officials, some allegedly tied to Iran, have since early July been demanding that the Iranian Mujahideen be "expelled" from Iraq within six months. That is an interesting time frame, coinciding as it does with the last months of the Bush administration.

The options confronting President Bush - or his successor if the saga drags out that long - are unenviable. One is to withdraw the protective US military guards from Camp Ashraf, thus turning the Mujahideen over to Iraqi forces, and probably to the hands of Iran. That would fly in the face of a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ruling regarding the protection of individuals who face serious risks if returned to their country of origin.

The other option would be to transport the Mujahideen to refuge in the US. That would require another decision: abandoning their designation as terrorists. Some who favor this argue that if North Korea can be considered for delistment, why not the Iranian Mujahideen?

It is a decision that pits principle, humanitarianism, and national self-interest against one another.

* John Hughes, a former editor of the Monitor, served as assistant secretary of state in the Reagan administration. He is currently a professor of communications at Brigham Young University.

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This special report by filmmaker **James Longley** focuses on the impact of the MEK on US-Iran Relations. Though the MEK, an exiled Iranian group, is listed on the State Department's list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations, they continue to enjoy both the covert and overt support of some members of US Congress and the Bush Administration because of their opposition to the Iranian government.

This filmed report explores the history of the MEK, their ideology, their participation in the Iranian revolution and exile from Iran, and their collaboration with Saddam Hussein's regime. Using interviews with historians, journalists, and first-person accounts of former members of the MEK, their shifting role is tracked through to the present day, as they continue to play a central role in US-Iran relations and create sharply divided opinions between various branches of the US government.

LEARN MORE:

Learn more about filmmaker James Longley at [Daylight Factory](#)



Iranian exiles arrested in France, Switzerland

Reuters News,
Sep 29, 2008



PARIS, Sept 29 (Reuters) - About 10 people close to a banned Iranian opposition group were arrested last week in France and Switzerland in connection with a money-laundering investigation, judicial sources and the group's lawyer said.

Several of the people close to the People's Mujahideen Organisation of Iran (PMOI) -- listed as a terrorist group in the European Union and United States -- were in police custody on both sides of the border on Monday, the sources said. The police swoop was coordinated between French and Swiss officials who were acting at the request of

Swiss judges examining the funding of a group linked to the PMOI. One of the PMOI's lawyers, William Bourdon, said the investigation was unfounded and was aimed at covering up what he said was the failure of an existing French probe. "The Swiss case file is empty, and there is every reason to believe that the same is true in France and that this second judicial front has been opened to try to hide the first file's certain collapse," he said. In June 2003, police arrested 167 people in the Paris suburb of Auvers-sur-Oise where the PMOI is based.

Of those arrested, 17 were placed under formal investigation, including Maryam Rajavi, the leader of the PMOI's political wing, the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), on suspicion of "associating with wrongdoers in relation with a terrorist undertaking".

That judicial probe has lost mo-

mentum and many of the restrictions on the suspects' movement were lifted in 2006.

Earlier this year the PMOI called on the EU to remove it from its list of banned terrorist organisations after the British parliament upheld in June a court ruling that its inclusion on a list of banned groups in Britain was wrong.

But the EU said in July it was keeping the PMOI on its blacklist, adding it saw no grounds for amending the listing of 48 groups subject to asset freezes and other sanctions in Europe.

A French source said then that Paris -- a major player in diplomatic negotiations over Iran's nuclear programme and the current holder of the EU's rotating presidency -- came forward with grounds for the group to remain on the list. (Reporting by Thierry Leveque; writing by Francois Murphy; editing by Janet Lawrence)