

ParsBrief

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- British embassy denies visit of MKO leader to Britain
- Iraqi tribes' leaders emphasized on MKO's expulsion
- The statement of Iraqi tribes' leaders and Nejat Society on MKO's expulsion from Iraq
- Voluntarily Return of Some MKO Defectors
- Member of UN Commission at the seminar of "Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Terror and Violence"
- US Openly Supports Iranian Terrorists



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British embassy denies visit of MKO leader to Britain

Tehran, 8, 3, 2005

British embassy

The British embassy in Tehran here Wednesday denied the reports about the visit of the leader of the terrorist group Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), Maryam Rajavi, to Britain and said that according to British law on campaign against terrorism (2000) MKO is considered as an illegal and terrorist organization. According to the communique issued by the British ambassador to Tehran, a copy of which was submitted to IRNA, the leader of MKO, Rajavi is not allowed to visit Britain. "I can confirm that she has been unable to visit the country. Neither has she attended the British House of Lords," added the diplomat. Referring to international terrorism as a common problem currently facing the world community and stressing the need for cooperation with Iran for campaign against it, he added that the opposition of British government to international terrorism is obvious. He noted that the list of organizations already announced illegal in accordance with the mentioned law and the limitations imposed upon them have been released for public access. Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi in his weekly briefing on Sunday July 31 said that he had read about the meeting of MKO heads with representatives of the British House of Lords in a website and that he has called for more information on the issue. He added that according to the British authorities, Rajavi has been denied the right of visiting Britain for the past three years and that such a meeting has not taken place. "If the report released by the website is correct, it would be a great mistake made by the British authorities which should be examined, while in case the news is incorrect the site should revise the given information," he concluded.

Iraqi tribes' leaders emphasized on MKO's expulsion

7,28,2005

Nejat Society

MKO members' families met some Iraqi tribes' leaders and asked them to help the expulsion of MKO from their country. In the meeting, held in Shiraz, Mr. Mohammad Bagher Momen Zade ,

the secretary of Shiraz branch of Nejat Society while analyzing MKO's current situation, applied their expulsion by Iraq government . Then the mother and sister of two MKO members captured in Iraq, said:"3 years ago, the two teenagers, Mohammad Reza and Ahmad Reza Iranpour, were deceived by the MKO in Turkey and then they were transferred to Iraq." They added that last year, while the serious situation in Baqdad, they went to Iraq to meet their loved ones but they couldn't get the permission to meet them and they were treated badly, they confirmed that Mujahedin have taken their sons as hostages .

Mr.Qasemi, who had passed 15 years in Ashraf Camp, and has escaped from there, explained the MKO's crimes for Iraqi tribes' leaders.

Mr. Mohammad Dashtestani, whose son was prisoned by MKO while Iran-Iraq war, requested the liberation of his son.

Mr Momen Zade, assured the leaders of Iraqi Tribes that there is no problem for the members who return to Iran and they enjoy the amnesty and can live in Iran freely.

"40 persons of Iraqi tribes' leaders who are members of National Assembly of Iraq, have applied the expulsion of Mujahedin Khalq." Sheikh Mohsen Qoreishi, one of the leaders of Iraqi tribes, addressed.

"we ask the deputies of National Assembly to return the Iranian captured in MKO to Iran, since Iran and Iraq are friends." He added.

"All Iraqi tribes want this group expelled from Iraq but now the Americans control the group" Sheikh vahab Abdolkhashi Al- Sallam said.

He also promised the families that he will reflect their request to Iraqi authorities and will cooperate with them.

At the end a statement was read that was included the confirmation on terrorist activities of MKO against Kurds and their abuse of Oil-food account and the application of all international societies to help the families and cooperate to expel MKO from Iraq.

The statement of Iraqi tribes' leaders and Nejat Society on MKO's expulsion from Iraq

Nejat Society

After two decades of usurping presence of terrorist MKO in Iraq territory , along with Saddam Hussein 's monarchist aims in the region and considering their treason to both friend countries – Iran and Iraq- as Saddam's mercenaries and regarding to their activities including :

- Participation in "Morvarid" [pear] operation to suppress Kurds' uprising in Iraq in which hundreds of Iraqi civilians were killed or injured by mortal squads of MKO.

- Supporting the oppression of Shiites' uprising by Saddam's evil regime while the first Gulf War and assisting the regime via providing it with information .
- Committing aggression to Islamic Republic of Iran borders via Iraq territory in various operations such as "Aftab" [sun] from Mehran's boundary and "Forough" [light] from Qasr Shirin boundary and many other operations done in order to act terrorist activities under the straight supervision of Saddam and Baa'th army.
- Training terror groups in their unlawful camps in Iraq which was led to foreign countries intervention in Iraqi people's fate, under the cover of fighting on terrorism.

Besides we must consider the plunder of Iraq capital ,MKO's conspiracy with Iraq Mukhabirat officials shown in available films in order to abuse Iraqis' rights in Oil – Food project and waste it to suppress Iraqi meek people.

Now that, there are some facilities to return MKO's followers to Iran including public amnesty and freely presence of more than five hundred of returnees, those gathered here, on behalf of Iraqi people demand the democratic government of Iraq and all humane international societies to make some facilities in order to expel the MKO from Iraq.

Voluntarily Return of Some MKO Defectors

Nejat Society

8,3,2005I

In a phone contact with the office of Red Cross, Mr. Khezr Aval, Deputy Representative of Red Cross in Tehran, said that by the assistance of International Red Cross, a number of former MKO members who were settled in a US camp in Iraq have returned to Iran on August 2, 2005. He added that the office of Red Cross would release the names of new returnees. Appreciating the efforts of Red Cross and other organizations, Iranian and Iraqi authorities and other organizations , we congratulate the return of defectors to the country . Taking it as a good omen, we ask the authorities on the fate of other former members in US-run camps and those still detained by the cult of Rajavi.

Member of UN Commission at the seminar of "Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Terror and Violence"

July,2005

Speaking at the seminar of "Protecting the Rights of Child Victims of Terror and Violence" held in Tehran, Ms. Lucy Smith, member of UN Commission for the rights of the child, stressed that most of MKO's documents on Iran should be dumped.

Highlighting the main items of "Universal Convention on the Rights of the Child", she pointed to the victims of MKO's terror and violence and said: "Last year, I met a number of families of such victims and I was really affected."

Referring to children being terrorized by terrorist organizations, she said: "we don't have executive power to order the groups and governments, so we can only advise them".

She condemned the use of children as tools by terrorist organizations, like the MKO, and said that terrorist organizations shouldn't be allowed to use the children.

US Openly Supports Iranian Terrorists

Electronic Iraq,
William Van Wagenen
27 July 2005

The U.S. Government is now openly supporting the Mujahideen-e-Khalq, an Iranian resistance movement designated as terrorist organization by the US State Department. On June 20th of this year, the Mujahideen-e-Khalq held a conference at the Palestine Hotel in Baghdad, which is where many foreign journalists stay and is under the full protection of the U.S. Army. I was in the area of the hotel that day, and saw at least 10 U.S. tanks heading in the direction of the hotel to provide additional security. I knew of the conference in advance, because of a report issued to all NGO's working in Iraq, which mentioned that the conference would take place. The report warned of an increased danger of attacks against the hotel, as anti- U.S. insurgents were likely to attempt to disrupt the conference [1].The Mujahideen-e-Khalq (MEK) is a Marxist oriented Iranian resistance organization founded in the 1960's to topple the pro- western regime of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi. Since that time, MEK has carried out scores of attacks and assassinated a number of Iranian government officials. MEK killed several American military and civilian personnel in Iran during the 1970's, and assisted in the occupation of the US embassy in Tehran in 1979 where American civilians were held hostage. Though MEK participated in the 1979 revolution, which toppled the Shah, once the Ayatollah Khomeini consolidated power in Iran, MEK moved their headquarters to Paris and continued resistance activities against the Islamic Republic. In 1981, MEK bombed the offices of the Islamic Republic Party, killing 70 high-ranking Iranian officials. MEK established its military

headquarters in Iraq in 1986, where Saddam Hussein became their main source of funding and protection. In return, the MEK fought alongside Iraqi forces during the war against Iran in the 1980's, and assisted Saddam's security forces in putting down the Kurdish and Shiite revolts after the first Gulf War in 1991. The majority of Saddam's recently discovered mass graves are filled with the Shiite and Kurdish dead from this uprising. MEK military operations against Iranian targets continued through the 1990's. The U.S. Department of State added the MEK to its official list of terrorist organizations in 1997, and shut down the organization's Washington, DC office in 2003 [2].

During the U.S. invasion of Iraq, MEK forces in Iraq surrendered to U.S. forces and turned over their military hard ware, including several thousand tanks, armored personnel carriers, anti-aircraft guns, and other vehicles. Despite denying suspected terrorists from Afghanistan and elsewhere prisoner of war status under the Geneva conventions, the US granted this status to detained members of MEK in Iraq [3]. Support for the MEK reveals one of the advantages the U.S. has acquired by occupying Iraq. The country can now be used as a staging post for carrying out attacks against regimes hostile to U.S. interests in the region, whether through proxy organizations such as MEK, or by attacking such countries directly by dispatching U.S. forces based on Iraqi soil. U.S. planners are currently somewhat constrained from using the latter option due to the difficulty they face in pacifying Iraq, so the first option, namely supporting terrorist organizations that are trying to destabilize the Iranian regime, will likely be their preferred course of action until U.S. control of Iraq is fully consolidated. So when Paul Wolfowitz promised Iraqis in 2003 that the US would hunt down the "monsters" that assisted Saddam in digging the mass graves in 1991 [4], the Bush administration was in fact just beginning its support for some of the direct perpetrators of these crimes. Also revealing is U.S. criticism of the new Iranian president elect, due to his alleged involvement in holding U.S. embassy personnel hostage in 1979. Though the U.S. admits the MEK was involved in the same incident, White House support for this terrorist organization continues. This kind of hypocrisy reveals much about what the global "war on terror" is really about. It's not a war against terror as such, but rather a war of terror to subdue resistance to the US designs in the region.

Sources:

[1] The organization which provides these security reports does not allow them to be cited publicly, and thus I cannot indicate the name of the source. The report for June 19th, 2005 stated the following: "A large conference involving the mujahadeen kark and sponsored by the Iraqi Government is scheduled to take place in the Palestine Hotel in Baghdad 20th June, this

may lead to insurgent attempts to disrupt the conference, HOM are advised to advise their staff to avoid this area." [2] US State Department, Patterns of Global Terrorism 2002 (pdf). See specifically Appendix B: Background Information on designated foreign terrorist organizations, pg. 115 for information on the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq

See also this description of the group from Globalsecurity.org. [3] Why the US granted 'protected' status to Iranian terrorists, The Christian Science Monitor, 07/29/2004. [4] New York Times, July 20th, 2003.

