

# ParsBrief

*No.24*

*June, 2006*

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### **Two more repatriated**

#### **Nejat Society correspondent**

**5.3.2006**

Two more members of Rajavi's Cult, who had cooperated with the organization for a long time, declared their separation from the cult and sought asylum in American camp. Therefore, on Tuesday, May 3rd, 2006 at 4 pm they could arrive Mehr Abad airport by the help of International Red Cross and Iranian Red Crescent and join their families.

Names are as follows:

Marzieh Ghorsi, nicknamed Arezoo

Siamak Hatami

The compelling news will be published consequently.

Nejat Society

### **Defectors of MEK were granted refugee status**

<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/taxis/vtx/partners/opendoc.pdf?tbl=PARTNERS&id=4458c0f22>

UNHCR in its annual report published in April, 2006, reported that:

IRAQ OPERATION, 2006

SUPPLEMENTARY APPEAL

Ashraf Facility: Some Iranian detainees at this facility near Baghdad have applied for asylum. UNHCR has been requested to verify their status and

pursue solutions for those who qualify as refugees. Due to lack of access to Ashraf by humanitarian agencies, UNHCR has piloted the first Refugee Status Determination interviews using video tele-conferencing facilities.

Targets: Some 180 asylum-seekers from Ashraf are interviewed in the first half of 2006, their status is determined and solutions are identified for those who are recognised as refugees.

### **We would never cooperate with Mojahedin Khalq Organisation of Iran**

**White House, May 3, 2006**

Press Briefing by Scott McClellan and Homeland Security Advisor Fran Townsend

James S. Brady Briefing Room

12:35 P.M. EDT

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/05/20060503-6.html>

...

**MR. McCLELLAN:** I'll be glad to take your question and take a look into it.

Go ahead.

**Q** There are numerous reports about low-intensity operations ongoing in Iran from three different places -- PKK going over the border into Iraq, the MEK southern border of Iraq into Iran, and also certain operations from Balochistan involving also the Pakistanis. Does the U.S. have a policy, given also reports which I know you won't comment on, on possible special forces operations in Iran? Does U.S. policy, based on the notion that an enemy of our enemy is our friend, consider changing its policy towards the PKK or --

**MR. McCLELLAN:** Our policies haven't changed on those organizations. They remain the same. And you're bringing up organizations that we view as terrorist organizations.

**Q** We would never cooperate with them, in terms of --

**MR. McCLELLAN:** Our policy hasn't changed.

...

### **Germany reaffirms MKO terrorist status**

#### **Berlin, May 22, IRNA**

Germany has reaffirmed the terrorist status of the MKO grouplet in its 2005 terror report released by the German domestic intelligence service Verfassungsschutz on Monday.

The report pointed to the fact the MKO was "responsible for numerous (terrorist) attacks in Iran."

Berlin has so far resisted intense MKO pressure tactics to have the terror grouplet removed from its official terror blacklist.

### **Nejat Society letter to TIPF**

**2006-05-21**

Nejat Society , through a letter to TIPF, appreciating its activities concerning the members captured in Camp Ashraf sought further cooperation along with the liberation of others willing to leave Camp Ashraf.

Below we present a summarized version of the letter:

Temporary International Presence Facility (TIPF)

Dear Sir,

We in the Nejat (Salvation) Society in Iran would like to draw your outstanding attention to a very important and imperative subject concerning the members of the Mojáhedín-é Khalq Organisation (MKO) of Iran whom are held in the Ashraf Camp in north of Baghdad. ...

We have learned about the excellent activities of TIPF in Iraq who has done a good effort to help those members who wished to free themselves and start a new respectful life for the rest of their lives. ...

It should be taken into consideration that the MKO has been recognised as a cult organisation and dealing with a cult which has had the chance of controlling its members in such isolated surroundings like Iraq for many years is a very careful assignment. To our opinion the members of the Organisation should individually be treated as separate cases and the help of their relatives and old friends should be sought. We are pleased to say that the Nejat Society has had plenty experience in this manner.

We are fully aware that the MKO is not happy with the work of TIPF since they wish to continue their domination and control over the members in the framework of the Organisation as they used to do under Saddam Hussein's dictatorship...

The Nejat Society is seeking an active contact with TIPF since the two establishments are dealing with the same subject and they both wish to help the same people. To our opinion the work of TIPF so far should carefully be revised and evaluated. We think we could find a great deal of subjects that we could share and discuss about. We would be most delighted if we could receive a communication from you soon and we do appreciate any contact with your institution in the future.

Looking forward to hearing or seeing from you

Yours Sincerely

Copy to:

- the International Committee of the Red Cross
- the Iraqi Ministry of Human Rights

**Nejat Society letter to the Belgium parliament**

**2006-05-08**

Since the foreign affairs committee of Belgian parliament has issued a statement to support the terrorist group MEK Nejat Society criticized this act through a letter:

Honorable chairman and representatives of Belgium parliament

Dear Sirs

Since the foreign affairs committee of Belgian parliament has issued a statement to support the terrorist group MEK on April 27th, 2006, a lot of broad-minded people wonder why a free country like Belgium which supports human rights should patronize a terrorist cult....

### **Third Option: A Window to Nowhere**

**Ibrahim Khodabandeh**

**2006/05/08**

Mojahedin-e Khalq has been for long time promoting so-called "Third Option" in its propaganda as a strategic solution. As far as I have been able to study, after inevitably undergoing significant changes three years ago, Mojahedin-e Khalq has maintained a new solution for overthrowing Iranian regime and assuming control in Iran. In this regard, MKO rejects invasion to Iran as well as compromising with Iranian regime in return for political deals, and instead insists on lifting group's name from terror lists in the West and rearming the NLA in Iraq; if rearmed and backed logistically, NLA in Iraq can move from Iraq toward Iran, defeat Iranian forces and take control of the country.

First, it's crystal clear that this option addresses the West, and particularly the US. In fact, this strategy requires the US to do what MKO orders. It doesn't say what would happen if the US rejects the group's requests. As usual, Iranian people have been omitted from this equation. As far as I know, the strategy of an independent revolutionary group should be based on what it does, not what others can do (here, the US).

Mr. Bizhan Niabati says that "MKO's ideal is to be recognized by Americans as a military force in the form of National Liberation Army (NLA) and as a unified political alternative under the form of NCRI". Of course, this has been

considered wholly wrong since the only alternatives accepted and recognized by the US are Monarchists and Republicans; Americans will never back a violent revolution in Iran unless they can handle its military force all by their own.

Second, let's pretend that the West and the US have accepted all MKO's requests (in other words, MKO has been lifted from the list and their confiscated weapons given back). This situation is still similar to the golden times after Forogh operation. The organization enjoyed similar situation in Iraq for years but there was no move from NLA! How could it be helpful for the time being? MKO may be looking for greater support than that of Saddam; for instance, a joint military operation! In that case, the US is unlikely to initiate a war against Iran and support the MKO (to get to power) at the same time. The fact is that the US and the West will lift MKO's name from terror lists only if the organization firmly renounces armed struggle, renounces its past, and dismantles the NLA. Also, the US will only support MKO's alternative if it is a "dependent alternative". In short, the organization should completely change its strategy before being accepted by the US; in this significant change, many of MKO members will be dropped. Is the MKO, now hanging on the US, ready for such a change?

Third, the MKO always claims that group's designation as terrorist, bombardment of its camps, and disarmament of its army were all done in response to the requests of Islamic Republic. If the US and the West do have such a good relationship with Iran (to meet its requests despite all differences), will there be any hope for sudden changes in their policies to turn their support for the MKO? Even if we accept this assumption that the West is meeting Iranian regime's requests, there are undoubtedly advantages for it; can MKO secure West's advantages (more than Iranian regime) when it expects them to accept Mojahedin's strategy?

However, what has occupied my mind is that whether this so-called solution can really be the plan and the agenda of a revolutionary, Islamic, popular, anti-colonialism, anti-exploitation organization with more than 40 years of nonstop struggle and a long line of martyrs? It seems as if experts in Pentagon have presented a solution for the US to easily get to its goals. I wonder if MKO founders could recognize their organization after a search in

the Internet and different websites of Mojahedin-e khalq! Had they really joined the MKO if they could see group's current situation 20 years ago? I recommend MKO members to look back at early books and magazines of Mojahedin, although those books and magazines are unlikely to be available now.

In fact, "Third Option" is not a strategy; it's the same American military option in which the MKO wants a share. The US believes it has two ways to confront the Islamic Republic: one is military option (like what it did to Iraq) and the other is political solution (in other words, forcing the regime to withdraw and giving more freedom of movement to pro-US forces). There's no place for the MKO in both solution, and that's why the MKO tries to convince the US to overthrow the regime under the name of NLA so that the role of MKO in Iran's future is guaranteed. This dream, which has been presented as a strategy, will never come true.

I should note that the organization, now and in the past, adopted two wholly wrong policies. In the past, it tried to achieve its goals by taking advantage of Iran-Iraq war, winning the support of Saddam Hussein, standing along the enemies and forming NLA in Iraq; currently, the MKO is seeking American support to fill the gap of Saddam Hussein. In both cases, MKO stood right against the interests of Iranian people, therefore there will be nothing for the group except defeat and failure. Mojahedin moved to Iraq and invested on the war (between Iran and Iraq) but everything reached a deadlock as Iran accepted the UN resolution (for ceasefire). Recent investment (by MKO) on the gap between Iran and the US as well as nuclear issue will bring a similar experience for the group.

Of course, I believe that even Mojahedin leaders know that they will not benefit from this strategy. Therefore, they don't elaborate on its details. From my point of view, the story of "Third Option" is only for preserving remnants of forces and keeping them busy. I believe that as members in Iraq, Europe and the US were for years busy with the story of NLA and toppling regime from Iraq, this recent story has been written only to postpone the determined dismantling of the organization. MKO leaders, who have created this story, and their audience in the US, are well aware of this fact. The only people who count on this issue are the surrounded members inside the organization. This



solution tries to open a way out for desperate members of MKO, but similar to previous strategies and solutions of the organization, it's a window that opens to NOWHERE.