

# ParsBrief

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### **Nejat Society Letter to President Nicolas Sarkozy**

President Nicolas Sarkozy

Elysé Palace

Paris, Republic of France

Dear Mr President

Primarily the Nejat Society would like to congratulate you on your victory in the presidential campaign. We wish you every success in your tasks and duties for the future of France.

Nejat Society consists of those former members of the Mojahedin-é Khalq Organization (MKO) of Iran who have managed to escape from boundaries of the Organization and feel obliged to help their former colleagues to be rescued from the confinement of a destructive cult.

As you may already be aware, the MKO under the leadership of Mas'ud and Maryam Rajavi actively took part in the French presidential campaign in the favour of the Socialist Party and its candidate Ms Ségolène Royal. This of course by no means has anything to do with the ideology or internal and international policies of the French Socialist Party. MKO has proven to be a terrorist cult with extreme opportunistic attitude toward political affairs.

The sheer fact is that Maryam Rajavi has a trial to face in a near future for fraud and terrorism in a French court of justice. This of course has put the organization in an awkward position. The organization thinks that if the ruling party in France is changed, this trial and its heavy file would be over shadowed.

It is worth mentioning that just after the 1979 revolution in Iran, MKO and its leader Mas'ud Rajavi fully supported the new ruling system just to gain time to get prepared to turn against it and assassinate many officials in various ranks.

We as the prime victims of a destructive cult would like to urge you to take decisive measures to counter the organization's terrorist acts and the mind manipulation practiced over its members. Please do not let them to misuse you and your party's reputation for their unjust goals.

Nejat Society

12 May 2007

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### **EU keeps Mojahedin Khalq Organisation on terror list after review**

By CONSTANT BRAND ,Associated Press Writer, 28 June 2007

Associated Press Newswires

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) - European Union governments decided Thursday to keep an Iranian opposition group on its terror blacklist, European diplomats said.

The 27-nation bloc was asked to review whether the Paris-based People's Mujahadeen Organization of Iran should be taken off the list after an EU court ruling.

The diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity because the decision had not been formally announced, said EU governments rejected the group's arguments that it should be removed from the list.

Maryam Rajavi, head of The National Council of Resistance -- the Paris-based political wing of the PMOI -- condemned the decision.

In a statement, her group described the move as "a political, legal and ethical scandal which makes a mockery of the (EU) court's judgment and the rule of law."

The group added it had gotten the support of "more than 1,000" lawmakers across Europe, adding that parliaments in Italy, Denmark, the Netherlands and Finland have all urged the EU to remove the PMOI from the blacklist.

Shahin Gobadi, a spokesman for the group, said the PMOI would organize a mass rally and march in Paris on Saturday to protest the EU decision. He said the group aimed to draw "tens of thousands" of Iranian exiles from across Europe to the demonstration.

The PMOI, which advocates the overthrow of the Iranian regime, is also on the U.S. State Department's list of terrorist organizations. Former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein allowed the group to operate camps in Iraq from which it launched attacks inside Iran,

although the group now says it has renounced military action and its militants in Iraq have handed weapons over to U.S.-led forces there.

The People's Mujahadeen is also seeking euro1 million (US\$1.35 million) in damages, claiming the EU has refused to apply an order last year from the European Court of Justice that annulled a 2002 decision to place the organization on its terrorist blacklist and order its assets frozen.

EU legal experts have said, however, that the court's ruling focused on procedural problems and did not imply that a group had to be removed from the list.

The experts claim the EU has complied with the judgment by supplying documents explaining its decision and allowing the People's Mujahadeen to present counter arguments as part of a review it undertook.

The People's Mujahadeen have said documents provided by the EU were inadequate, based on outdated material and that they failed to recognize that the organization has declared a halt to military action against the Iranian government.

The group claims Brussels and Washington are keeping it on their terror lists to avoid further harming relations with Tehran.

The People's Mujahadeen Organization, which is also known as the Mujahedeen Khalq, or MEK, has been on the U.S. State Department's list of terrorist organizations since 1997, which bars anyone in the United States from providing material support.

The State Department says the Mujahedeen Khalq groups were funded by Saddam Hussein, supported the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in 1979 and are responsible for the deaths of Americans in the 1970s.

### **Iran welcomes repatriation of repenting MKO members**

IRNA, June 08, 2007

<http://www2.irna.ir/en/news/view/line-17/0706088274190705.htm>

Ahvaz General and Revolutionary Court Prosecutor General said here Friday Islam is a religion of blessing and forgiveness, based on which Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes repatriation of repenting MKO members to their motherland.

Moussa Pirbabaie made the comment at a meeting of the Organization to Support Repenting MKO Members (NEJAT) at Aftab Hall of Ahvaz.

"Forgiving and forgetting would lead to feeling of social calmness, strengthening of foundations of national security, and giving assurances about the system's strength to the public." Addressing the families of the former members of the Iranian terrorist organization,

MKO, he said, "The main cause for fast expansion of Holy Islam in the world is the faith's forgiveness and high level leniency vis-a-vis past mistakes of individuals." He added, "In blessed Islamic teachings saving the victims of cultural, faith, and belief discrepancies is stressed much more than the victims of physical harms."

Ahvaz Prosecutor General referring to the nomination of the current Iranian year as the Year of National Unity and Islamic Solidity by the Supreme Leader, reiterated, "In this particular year forgiving those criminals that have repented must be atop our agenda, and doing so from the position of a powerful system gives a great meaning to such a nomination."

He added, "Meanwhile, such forgiveness is for those people who demonstrate signs of repentance and real change compared to their past conduct."

Pirbabaie emphasized, "The IRI Judiciary would not issue arrest warrants for any of this terrorist group's repenting former members that are willing to make up for their past mistakes."

Head of Khuzestan Province Branch of NEJAT Organization, too, said at the gathering, "This organization has ever since its establishment facilitated repatriation of some 500 repenting MKO members and their reunion with their families throughout Iran."

### **Proscribed terrorist Mojahedin Khalq Organisation attack the Seminar on "Cults and Violence" in Paris**

Association for the Protection of Iranian Immigrants

Paris, 21 June 2007

As you are aware, on June 17, 2007, about 50 members of the proscribed terrorist entity, Mojahedin Khalq Organisation (MKO) who had been dispatched from Britain, Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands and Germany, attacked a seminar organised by the Association for the Protection of Iranian Immigrants. The venue was at FIAP in the 14th District of Paris. The attackers used knives, broken bottles, etc and injured many of the guests as well as some of the organisers. More than 13 people were injured seriously - which was reported by local and international media. After intervention by the police, all the Mojahedin members were arrested and taken into custody.

We have been informed that already a serious investigation has begun in the French Judicial system to find out about the depth of involvement of leaders of the Mojahedin Khalq currently residing in north of Paris.

The following information has been revealed to us:

1 - This terrorist act had been approved and arranged at the highest levels of Mojahedin Khalq Organisation and National Council of Resistance leadership and the cult leader Maryam Rajavi was involved in every detail of the operation. Mr. Alaedin Tooran and Ms. Shahrzad Haj Seied Javidi have acted as the "intelligence officer" and "operational officer" for this operation, conducting every detail from Ms. Maryam Rajavi residence in the north of Paris. The operation had been named operation "Destruction of the Nest of Snakes".

2 - The "executive field officer" of the operation has been Mr. Mohammad Hayati (aka: Siavosh) who has been a military leader of MKO from the time of the Shah and who is currently a member of MKO as well as the National Council of Resistance. He conducted the attack using his men and had communication with them through mobile phones. During the years 1981 to 1986, Mohammad Hayati was a member of executive committee of Mojahedin in France and after the departure of Massoud and Maryam Rajavi (cult leaders) to Baghdad; he was transferred to Iraq and took the position of head of one of three military bases given to the Mojahedin by Saddam Hussein. He has directed major military operations in suppressing the uprising of the Iraqi Kurds and Shiites as well as insurgencies inside Iranian territory.

According to news received from the Americans as well as the disaffected members of Ashraf Camp in Iraq, the name of Mohammad Hayati has been registered in the list of Mojahedin members in the camp and up to 6 months ago, he has had regular contact with the American forces in charge of the camp.

We believe that Mohammad Hayati has specifically been sent from Iraq after the announcement by our association. He has been sent by Massoud and Maryam Rajavi and has been appointed to command this terror operation in Paris. He had been present at the scene from 12:00 on Sunday June 17 and had coordinated every movement by mobile phone. He had been in constant contact with the Mojahedin HQ in the north of Paris and had been reporting every step directly to Maryam Rajavi.

Mohammad Hayati was arrested by the police inside the FIAP building and was transferred to the police station. The police after examining his documents clearly were aware of his false ID and false passport which was used to travel from the Netherlands.

We alert the International Committee of the Red Cross and the American forces in charge of camp Ashraf that the terrorist Mojahedin Khalq Organisation has been transferring some

of its military forces from Iraq (Camp Ashraf) to European countries to carry out similar attacks.

All this is happening at a time that about 200 people, who have clearly renounced terrorism and the Mojahedin Khalq Organisation after the fall of Saddam, are still being kept under extreme conditions by the American forces and do not have the right to asylum or to leave the place.

3 - thanking all the Iranians and other peace loving people who have been in contact in the last few day to lend their support, we would like to bring to your attention that contrary to the propaganda of the cult through its massive propaganda machine which has been lent to this proscribed terrorist organisation (Mojahedin Khalq), the cult has been clearly demonstrating its true face and its deeply rooted belief in violence and terror.

Pictures and films which we have received to date are attached.

A picture of Mohammad Hayati standing among some policemen is among these pictures. Also a clip shows one of the women with the organisational name of "Effat" who is apparently from the leadership of MKO approaches Mr. Firoozman and gives a message from Maryam Rajavi to him which translates:

"We wish we had executed you in 2001 when we arrested you and got rid of this trouble".

The clip can be seen at the end of the film No. 1, with her face and comments clearly discernable.

At the end we wish to remind Massoud and Maryam Rajavi that we are now on French soil and France would never change into Iraq for you even in your wildest dreams.

Paris. June 21, 2007

Association for the Protection of Iranian Immigrants

### **MKO crafty offer to parent Iraqi children**

Mojahedin.ws

Children are the most despised creatures inside MKO as you can find no child living with the group in Camp Ashraf at the present. Human Rights Watch report's No Exit; Human Rights Abuses inside the MKO Camps released in 2005 explicitly refers to instances of children's abuses inside MKO:

[Yasser] Ezati moved to Iraq with his family at the age of three and grew up inside the MKO military camps. During the 1991 Gulf war, Ezati and other children inside the camps

were separated from their parents and sent outside Iraq. During the next three years, Ezati lived with three different families in Canada. These families were MKO sympathizers. In the summer of 1994, the MKO moved Ezati to Cologne, Germany, where he lived in a group-house for the MKO children. The organization recruited Ezati for military training when he was seventeen years old and sent him to Iraq in June 1997.

Besides being mistreated and abused for military purposes, children were exploited as fundraising tools in Western countries. That is the way the Mojahedin cult looks upon children. Now, at the time when the Iraqi government intends to expel MKO, its leader is playing another trick to hide the group's terrorist intentions behind a humanitarian mask. Maryam Rajavi in her speech made on 30 June in a Paris rally surprised many people who are familiar with the group's cult-like and counter-children moves and practices when she announced her group's readiness to look after 1000 Iraqi children:

We announce our readiness to the United Nations to use every means at our disposal to look after a number of Iraqi orphans. Specifically, I announce that the Iranian Resistance is prepared to take care of 1,000 Iraqi orphans and pay for all their expenses in Ashraf City under the supervision of UNICEF and in accordance with its guidelines. This offer is made purely on humanitarian grounds and is devoid of any political or public relations considerations. We will inform the Iraqi embassy in Paris and expect that the current Iraqi government would agree to such a humanitarian initiative.

Iraqi children have no need of terrorists to take care of them. If MKO really intends to show respect for humanitarian moves devoid of any political considerations as it claims, it can show its good-will by letting humanitarian organizations visit and watch over the condition of the Group's own insiders forcefully held within Camp Ashraf.

## **Two Agendas: Why Iran, U.S. Stand Far Apart --- Tehran Seeks End to Bid to Destabilize Regime; Washington Wants Insurgent Backing in Iraq to Stop**

By Jay Solomon and Neil King Jr.

The Wall Street Journal, June 25, 2007

Washington -- As the U.S. and Iran consider a second round of talks aimed at stabilizing Iraq, Tehran is calling for the U.S. to stop actions it claims are aimed at stirring trouble within Iran. Iran's list of concerns underscores the deep divisions separating the two sides -- and could stymie any hoped-for cooperation on Iraq.

For its part, Washington claims Iran is backing Iraqi insurgent groups that are attacking U.S. forces and wants it to stop. But the Iranians are countering with demands, both in public and through private channels, that the Bush administration break up an Iranian



terrorist group, the Mujahedin e-Khalq, or MEK, that opposes the Iranian government and is being sheltered by U.S. forces in Iraq near the Iranian border, senior U.S. officials and academics said.

"The MEK has been a constant irritant to the Iranians, and they have brought [the group] up repeatedly, both directly and indirectly," said a senior U.S. official working on Iran.

Iran has listed other issues it wants addressed, as the U.S. pushes it to help tame sectarian violence and weapons proliferation in Iraq. These include an end to Washington's alleged support of ethnic insurgent groups, which Tehran views as part of a broader destabilization campaign against the regime of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Tehran also wants the U.S. to return five Iranian officials detained in Iraq by the Pentagon in January and to set a firm timetable for a U.S. military withdrawal from Iraq.

Iran's demands, and particularly its fixation on the MEK, illustrate the increasingly tit-for-tat approach Tehran is employing in its growing contretemps with Washington and its Western allies over Iraq and over Iran's pursuit of nuclear know-how. The demands also reflect a growing anxiety sweeping Mr. Ahmadinejad's government about the perceived threat posed by the U.S. and its allies to Iran's internal stability, U.S. officials and analysts said.

In recent months, Tehran has detained four Iranian-American academics on espionage charges, as well as 15 British marines and naval officers -- since released -- who it alleged had illegally entered Iranian waters.

The Iranian government is facing mounting public unrest at home amid signs that the economy is suffering. International financial sanctions pushed by the U.S. in response to Tehran's nuclear activities could further damage the country's economy and Mr. Ahmadinejad's political standing.

Iran has emerged as an increasingly influential player in the Middle East, as Shiite Muslim political parties and militant groups bolster their presence across the region. In Iraq, the Bush administration believes Tehran is supplying weapons and training to Shiite militias fighting against Sunni Muslims and American forces, in a bid to undermine Washington's Iraq mission. Iranians officials, who declined to comment for this article, have previously denied the country is training or arming militias in Iraq.

In the first direct talks between Washington and Tehran in decades, held on May 28 in Baghdad, the U.S. delegation, led by U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker, demanded that Iran move to stop its support of Iraqi militia groups. The Iranians raised some of their

concerns in response, with Iran's ambassador to Iraq, Hassan Kazemi Quomi, bringing up the MEK.

Now Iran is pushing for a second round, but U.S. officials said the White House hasn't decided whether more talks would be useful at this moment. Mr. Crocker and other officials described the first session as a largely formal, four-hour presentation of each country's views on Iraq, and what each thought the other could do to lessen the violence. Washington's position on the MEK has emerged as a litmus test in Tehran's eyes of the Bush administration's overall posture toward Iran, and could help determine the success of any future talks between the two countries.

Selig Harrison, a scholar based in Washington who recently met with Iranian officials in Tehran, said the Iranian government views the dismantling of the MEK "as a key barometer of the U.S.'s goodwill."

The issue may also be the only one among Iran's demands on which the U.S. has some flexibility. U.S. officials said they are weighing ideas on how to remove the group from its U.S.-protected base in Iraq. But they conceded that any decision would have to overcome numerous legal and other obstacles, as well as heavy criticism on Capitol Hill.

The U.S. State Department considers the MEK a terrorist organization for its role in assassinating American and Iranian officials, and its military alliance with deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in the 1980s and '90s.

Even so, the Pentagon continues to safeguard more than 3,000 MEK members and their families at an Iraqi military base near the Iranian border under an international covenant protecting displaced peoples. The U.S. command has allowed the group to use Camp Ashraf as a base to orchestrate anti-Iranian political and propaganda programs, though it has disarmed MEK fighters.

Members of the MEK and its political arm, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, have emerged as a source of intelligence for Washington on Iran's nuclear programs and paramilitary operations. And thanks to a healthy lobbying operation, the organization enjoys strong support in Congress, where some sympathetic lawmakers view it as a potential democratic counterweight to Tehran.

Mr. Harrison, who is based at the Center for International Policy and visited Tehran three weeks ago, said aides to Mr. Ahmadinejad and Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei told him that Washington's partnership with the MEK was viewed as part of a broader U.S. campaign to use ethnic insurgent groups to challenge Tehran.

Iran has charged the U.S. with supporting ethnic militias in Iraqi Kurdistan and Pakistan's Baluchistan province in a bid to strike Iranian military assets.

The Pentagon and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency have denied using these militias, or the MEK itself, as military tools against Iran.

Iranian officials have floated proposals at international events that would allow agencies such as the Red Cross to oversee the resettlement of MEK personnel out of Camp Ashraf either back to Iran or to third countries.

Other Iran analysts said the stalemate between Washington and Tehran over the MEK underscores the high distrust between the countries. In the late 1990s, the Clinton administration listed the MEK as a terrorist organization, partly in an effort to build bridges to reformist elements in Iran. Now, there appears to be no middle ground between the countries on the MEK and other issues.

"The MEK was always a small price to pay" for Washington to improve ties with Iran, said Vali Nasr, a Middle East expert at the Council on Foreign Relations. "The problem is that Washington is not interested anymore in paying any price."

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## Fickle Friends

### Washington's history with the Mujahedin e-Khalq

- 1970s: MEK operatives, seeking to overthrow the Shah, kill American diplomats, contractors seen backing Iran's regime
- 1979-86: MEK initially backs Islamists' ouster of the Shah, but members flee after incurring mullahs' mistrust and set up bases in neighboring Iraq
- 1997: Clinton administration, pursuing better ties with Iran, places MEK on State Department terrorist list
- 2002: MEK officials in Washington disclose intelligence on secret Iranian nuclear activities in city of Natanz
- April 2003: U.S. designates MEK political arm, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, a terrorist entity
- May 2003: U.S. launches raids on MEK camps in Iraq, cease-fire eventually signed by two sides
- June 2003: French antiterrorism officials, with support from U.S. intelligence, seize MEK property and personnel outside Paris

- 2004: Pentagon grants amnesty to roughly 3,500 MEK personnel in Iraq under Fourth Geneva Convention
- 2007: Iran, U.S. discuss dismantling MEK infrastructure in Iraq