

# ParsBrief

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### 115 Liberty residents fly to Albania

IranInterlink – November 24, 2014

115 members of the Mujahedin Khalq Organization who resided in Camp Liberty, Iraq fled to Tirana, Albania.

The government of Albania that had received 210 MKO members last year, accepted to receive another 210 individuals under the request of the US government.

Albania had previously provided residential facilities to receive them but the MKO leaders impeded the relocation process under various pretexts.

The selected individuals were supposed to fly to Tirana on November 7<sup>th</sup> but the MKO officials obstructed the flight a few hours before. Finally, 115 individuals fled to Tirana on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

55 people of the relocated group are elderly who suffer severe diseases and 60 other individuals include commandants and high-ranking officials of the MKO.

The MKO tried hard to relocate its high-ranking officials who are under arrest warrant by the Government of Iraq.

It is worth to notify that the MKO did not relocate those Liberty residents whose families have been closely seeking their release from the Cult of Rajavi such as Hossein Moradi, Alireza ,Kobra and Akram Mirbagheri, Amir Arsalan Hassan Zadeh.

Further news on the relocation process will be reported as soon as possible.

### The MKO remain on the consolidated list of Australia

Nejat Society reporting from [dfat.gov.au](http://dfat.gov.au)- December22, 2014

The Australian Government updated its consolidated list on December 15th. The Mujahedin Khalq Organization (the MKO) is again in the list.

The consolidated list of Australia is a list of all persons and entities who are subject to targeted financial sanctions or travel bans under Australian sanctions laws.

<http://dfat.gov.au/sanctions/consolidated-list.html>

The list includes the MKO and its affiliates such as National Liberation Army (NLA) and National Council of Resistance (NCR). The list won't be reviewed until 2016.

The MKO was on the list of the proscribed terrorist groups of the US and the EU but its multi-million dollar lobbying campaign succeed to delist the group.

As the Australian government took this proper action to maintain the MKO on its consolidated list, it is expected that other Western states follow the same pattern.

The presence of the cult-like MKO – with its violent background – in the West makes western citizens concerned over its cult-like attitudes such as self-immolations the group members committed in European Capitals following the arrest of their leader Maryam Rajavi by the French Police in June 2003.

#### Dear Washington: Kick Out This Iranian Militant Cult

Holly Dages - Huffington Post - December 12, 2014

In the war of words on Iran's domestic issues and controversial nuclear program, the Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK) always is front and center to condemn the country. The MEK is known by many monikers: the People's Mojahedin of Iran (PMOI), Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO), but is best known by the multifaceted National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI). Through social media, the group spams most Iran-related hashtags with their propaganda, bankroll prominent U.S. officials to advocate on their behalf as the "democratic alternative" to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and even re-opened an office a block from the White House where they hired former Senator Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.) as their legal representative.

None of these points would be problematic if it weren't for the fact that the European Union and United States formerly designated the Iraq-based MEK as a terrorist organization for its past activities. What makes this realization peculiar is the very people in Congress that cozy up to the group's leader, Maryam Rajavi, by calling for staunch sanctions—sometimes even war—on Iran due to its nuclear program and particularly human rights violations, seem to turn a blind eye to the activities of the totalitarian cult of Marxist-Islamist Iranian dissidents we know today as the MEK.

The amount of misinformation circulated by their public relations is disturbing and it's time to expose their true nature.

#### Not A Champion of Iranian Women

To this day, the followers of the Mojahedin-e Khalq and its apologists dismiss it is a cult and continue to refer to their group as a “deeply democratic organization whose guiding principle on all issues is referendum and discussion until a consensus is reached.” Despite denials, its conduct tells otherwise as cited by a RAND report: deceptive recruitment, emotional isolation, extreme degrading peer pressure, forced labor, imprisonment, lack of exit options, sexual control, sleep deprivation, and physical abuse.

Maryam Rajavi's marriage to one of the original founders of the MEK symbolized the transformation from an organization to a “cult of personality.” With the money provided by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein—they formed an alliance due to a deep disdain for the Iranian regime—to “construct self-sufficient camps” which included: medical clinics, prisons (also known as “reeducation centers”), schools, and training centers, in order for the population not to engage with outside society. Additionally, prior to the 2003 invasion of Iraq, members of the Mojahedin carried cyanide tablets around their neck to avoid capture. Self-immolation and suicide reportedly are a popular form of political protest amongst members.

With knowledge of this publically available, it is difficult to take them serious. But what is truly an affront to women is when Rajavi and her supporters claim they offer a better alternative to the current women's rights situation in in Iran.

In a recent op-ed for The Hill, Soona Samsami a representative of the NCRI expresses:

“Rajavi has outlined a Ten Point Plan for Future Iran, which says, ‘We believe in complete gender equality in political, social and economic arenas. We are also committed to equal participation of women in political leadership. Any form of discrimination against women will be abolished. They will enjoy the right to freely choose their clothing.’”

Even though the group promotes leadership positions for women, in order to impose “military” regulations on its members, the MEK forces them not only to move into gender-segregated compounds, but also cut ties with family and friends—both inside and outside of the commune. They even require members to divorce their spouses and to live a life of celibacy. It is presumed that love for family and significant others would be replaced with love for the Rajavis.

Last but not least, when it came to attire for women, journalist Elizabeth Rubin notes:

“Everywhere I saw women dressed exactly alike, in khaki uniforms and mud-colored head scarves, driving back and forth in white pickup trucks, staring ahead in a daze as if they were working at a factory in Maoist China.”

Iran’s women rights record is problematic, but this is not and should never be considered the alternative, even momentarily.

#### Listen To Iranians

While Samsami says “Young women in Iran find true inspiration in the main opposition” that is Maryam Rajavi, the group has not won an audience with the Iranian people at home in Tehran.

Not only has the Mojahedin-e Khalq lost its support because of its alliance with Saddam during the Iran-Iraq War of the 1980s—an insult to the Iranian people’s nationalism—but also for its position against Iran’s nuclear program, something the average Iranian sees as their legitimate right. Many Iranians convey the group is “worse than the mullahs” or along the lines of what some Iranian democracy activists claim that “if it had had the chance, [the MEK] could have become the Khmer Rouge of Iran.”

With that in mind, there is no chance the MEK could win over the Iranian people if a potential regime change took place—something various legislators in the United States need to recognize.

It’s time the MEK’s blind proponents see them for what they really are: a sham.

Guess who credits the Mossad with producing the 'laptop documents?'

Gareth Porter - December 18, 2014

Evidence mounts pointing to the Mossad as the source of dubious claims about Iran’s uranium enrichment program contained in the 'laptop documents'

In the United States and Europe, it is unchallenged in political and media circles that intelligence documents purporting to be from a covert Iranian nuclear weapons program for which the IAEA long demanded an Iranian explanation are genuine.

But evidence has continued to accumulate that the documents - sometimes called the “laptop documents” because they were said to have been on a laptop computer belonging to one of the participants in the program - were fabricated by Israel’s foreign intelligence agency (Mossad). We now know that the documents did not come from an Iranian participant in the alleged project, as the media were led to believe for years; they were

turned over to German intelligence by the anti-regime Iranian terrorist organisation, Mujahedeen E Khalq, (MEK). I first reported this in 2008 and have now confirmed from an authoritative German source in my book on the Iran nuclear issue. The MEK was well known to have been a client of the Mossad, serving to launder Israeli intelligence claims that the Israelis did not want attributed to themselves.

Although it has never been mentioned in news media, former International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General, Mohamed El Baradei recalled in his memoirs that he was doubtful of the authenticity of the documents. "No one knew if any of this was real," he wrote in reference to the laptop documents. Another former senior IAEA official told me, "It just really didn't add up. It made more sense that this information originated in another country." And as I have detailed in articles and in my book, key documents in the collection bear clear indications of fabrication.

Support for that virtually unknown part of the Iran nuclear story has come from a surprising source: a popular Israeli account, celebrating the successes of the Mossad's covert operations. "Mossad: The Greatest Missions of the Israeli Secret Service," first published in Hebrew in 2010, and then published in English in 2012, was Israel's best-selling book for months in 2010. But not only does it acknowledge that it was indeed the MEK that delivered the documents, it also suggests that at least some of the documents came from the Mossad.

The co-authors of the book are far from critics of Israel's policy toward Iran; One of the co-authors, Michael Bar-Zohar, is a well-connected former member of the Israeli Knesset and former paratrooper, who had previously written an authorised biography of Shimon Peres, as well as the biography of Isser Harel, the Mossad chief who presided over the kidnapping of Adolph Eichmann in Argentina.

Much of what Bar-Zohar chronicled in the book had already been reported earlier by Israeli journalists - especially Ronen Bergman of the daily Yedioth Ahronoth. In fact, Bergman accused Bar-Zohar of plagiarising his articles for much of the book, while changing only a few words.

But one thing that Bar-Zohar and co-author Nisham Mishal did not get from other Israeli journalists, was the role of the Mossad in regard to the laptop documents.

Although they do not flatly state that the Mossad was the source of the documents, they certainly lead the reader to that conclusion. They begin by establishing the fact that the MEK was fronting for the Mossad in its revelation in August 2002 of Iran's first enrichment facility at Natanz. The CIA, they write, "appeared to believe that the Mossad and the British MI6 were feeding MEK intelligence they had obtained, using the Iranian opposition as a

hopefully credible source". And they explicitly confirm CIA's suspicions. "According to Israeli sources," they write, "It was, in fact, a watchful Mossad officer who had discovered the mammoth centrifuge installation at Natanz."

Other sources, including Seymour Hersh and Connie Bruck have reported that the MEK got the intelligence on Natanz from the Israelis, but theirs is the first explicit acknowledgement attributed to an Israeli source that the MEK had revealed Natanz on the basis of Mossad intelligence. What the Israeli co-authors do not say is that the Mossad was simply guessing at the purpose of Natanz, which the MEK mistakenly called a "fuel fabrication" facility, rather than a centrifuge enrichment facility.

Turning to the laptop documents, they make it clear that western intelligence had indeed obtained the documents from the MEK and suggest that the MEK got them from somewhere else. "The dissidents wouldn't say how they had gotten hold of the laptop," they write. They again frame the question of the origins of those documents in terms of CIA suspicions. "[T]he skeptical Americans suspected that the documents had been only recently scanned into the computer," they write. "They accused the Mossad of having slipped in some information obtained from our own sources - and passing it to the MEK leaders for delivery to the West."

Bar-Zohar and Mishal steer clear of any suggestion that the Mossad fabricated any documents, but their account leaves little doubt that they are convinced that the Mossad should be credited for the appearance of the documents. Their approach of referring to US suspicions, rather than stating it directly, appears to be a way of avoiding problems with Israeli military censors, who often clamp down on local reporting on sensitive issues while allowing references to foreign reports.

The authors further suggest that the Mossad was behind information later released by the MEK on Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, the Iranian physics professor said to be shown in the laptop documents as the man in charge of that purported Iranian nuclear weapons research program. The MEK disclosed such personal details as Fakhrizadeh's passport number and his home telephone number. But the Mossad chroniclers write: "This abundance of detail and means of transmission leads one to believe that, again, "a certain secret service" ever suspected by the West of pursuing its own agenda, painstakingly collected these facts and figures about the Iranian scientists and passed them to the Iranian resistance."

I asked Bar-Zohar's research assistant, Nilly Ovnat, whether he had Israeli sources for those statements relating to the MEK and the laptop documents. She responded by e-mail: "Professor Bar Zohar had other sources for most of the material concerning MEK and Natanz [and the] laptop, yet they could not be mentioned and cannot be discussed."

Bar-Zohar and Mishal are little concerned with whether the Mossad's laptop caper involved fraud or not. They obviously view the Israeli intelligence agency's use of an Iranian exile group to get out documents that had been central to the international sanctions regime against Iran as a great triumph. But whatever their reasons, their book adds another layer to the growing body of evidence showing that the Bush administration and its allies hoodwinked the rest of the world with those documents.

- *Gareth Porter is an independent investigative journalist and historian writing on US national security policy. His latest book, "Manufactured Crisis: The Untold Story of the Iran Nuclear Scare," was published in February 2014.*

The views expressed in this article belong to the author and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of Middle East Eye.

### Israeli agents training Mojahedin Khalq terrorists in Jordan: Report

Press TV, December 2, 2014

Israel is training members of the anti-Iran terrorist Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) in Jordan along the border with Saudi Arabia in order to carry out acts of terror inside Iran and neighboring Iraq, Press TV has learnt.

According to sources, who declined to be named, the MKO terrorists are undergoing training on how to conduct terrorist operations in Iran and Iraq and receiving technical as well as information technology (IT) training from Israeli agents.

This is the first time it is revealed that anti-Iran MKO terrorists are being trained in Jordan along the border with Saudi Arabia.

Earlier reports had revealed that radical extremists are receiving terror training in Jordan before being sent into Syria and Iraq to carry out bomb attacks and join the ranks of the al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Nusra Front, ISIL Takfiri militants and other terrorist groups operating inside both violence-plagued Arab countries.

The MKO fled to Iraq in 1986, where it enjoyed the support of Iraq's executed dictator Saddam Hussein, and set up its camp near the Iranian border.

The group is also known to have cooperated with Saddam Hussein in suppressing the 1991 uprisings in southern Iraq and carrying out the massacre of Iraqi Kurds.

The MKO has carried out numerous acts of violence against Iranian civilians and government officials.



Out of the nearly 17,000 Iranians killed in terrorist attacks since the victory of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution, 12,000 have fallen victim to the acts of terror carried out by the MKO.