

The Iranian Pen Club

Panorama



US moots 'negotiated' plan for Iranian camp (Ashraf) in Iraq

CONTENT

US moots
'negotiated' plan
for Iranian camp
(Ashraf) in Iraq 1

Last group of dis-
associated mem-
bers of Mojahedin
Khalq in Paris 2

Iraq: Mojahedin 3
Khalq terrorist
group to be re-
moved

Mr. Saeed 4
Naseris' official
statement

Mr. Kohzadi offi- 5
cially

Mr. Mahmoud 6
Sepahi ,announces
.....

Former members 8
of MKO wel-
comed in a meet-
ing in Germany

... Iraq has ordered the exiled Iranian opposition group People's Mujahedeen of Iran to leave the country by the end of this year after a deadly weekend assault at its Camp Ashraf base. "We're prepared to help the government of Iraq develop and execute a negotiated plan -- and the emphasis on 'negotiated' -- that addresses the future of Camp Ashraf," State Department spokesman Mark Toner said. The People's Mujahedeen of Iran set up Camp Ashraf in the 1980s -- when the regime of late Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was at war with the Islamic republic -- as a base to operate against Tehran. It was disarmed following the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 ...

AFP, April 13 2011

<http://afp.com>

WASHINGTON — The United States said Tuesday it is ready to help Iraq find a negotiated plan for an Iranian opposition camp in which the dissidents there could "conceivably" end up in a third country.

Iraq has ordered the exiled Iranian opposition group People's Mujahedeen of Iran to leave the country by the end of this year after a deadly weekend assault at its Camp Ashraf base.

"We're prepared to help the government of Iraq develop and execute a negotiated plan -- and the emphasis on 'negotiated' -- that addresses the future of Camp Ashraf," State Department spokesman Mark Toner said.

When asked whether the plan could include having the camp's members transferred to a third country where they would not be tortured or abused, Toner replied: "Conceivably, yeah."

Toner also said Washington is urging the authorities in Baghdad to allow UN officials to visit Camp Ashraf to determine what happened during the assault and how many people were killed.]

An Iraqi security official said at least three people were killed Friday when Iraqi forces clashed with the Iranian opposition group, but the dissidents claimed 31 of their members died in a full military assault.

During a visit to American troops in northern Iraq, US Defense Secretary Robert Gates expressed concern at the reports of casualties. He urged Iraqi authorities to show restraint.

The People's Mujahedeen of Iran set up Camp Ashraf in the 1980s -- when the regime of late Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was at war with the Islamic republic -- as a base to operate against Tehran.

It was disarmed following the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003



Paris—05.03.2011

Last group of disassociated members of Mojahedin Khalq (MKO, MEK, NCRI, Rajavi cult) in a meeting in Paris

Last group of disassociated members of Mojahedin Khalq (MKO, MEK, NCRI, Rajavi cult) in a meeting in Paris

The Iranian Pen Club, Translated by Nejat Society, 14 March 2011



A group of human rights activists and separated members of MKO, Mr. Ebrahimi, Mr. Sepehri, Mr. Naseri and Mr. Kohzadi attended the meeting where they were congratulated for their release from Camp Ashraf prison.

During the meeting that lasted a few hours, MKO former members, spoke of human rights violations and various psychological pressures imposed on MKO members in Camp Ashraf.

The attendees discussed possible approaches to contribute their ex-comrades captured in Ashraf in order to get released from the notorious cult of Rajavi. They confirmed that families' presence in front of Ashraf gates would strengthen the captives' will to release themselves.

They notified that MKO leaders seriously feel threatened and terrified due to the families' presence.

Mr. Mehdi Khoshhal said: "It is funny that Rajavi wonders why families of MKO victims use loudspeakers to send their messages to their beloved ones or why the number of loudspeakers around Camp Ashraf is increased."

Mr. Razaghi, Mr. Naderi, Mr. Sarafpour, Mr. Ariyaiee and Mr. Sobhani were some other MKO former members who participated the meeting.



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Iraq: Mojahedin Khalq(MKO, MEK, NCRI, Rajavi cult) terrorist group to be removed by the end of the year

Iraqi Government announcement, April 11, 2011

www.goi-s.com

The Iraqi government has set a year-end deadline for residents of an Iranian dissident camp to leave the country, a government spokesman said on Monday

"This organisation must be removed from Iraqi territory by all means, including political and diplomatic, with the cooperation of the U.N. and international organisations," Dabbagh said in a statement.

Government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh called

the PMOI a "terrorist organisation" and said the government would enforce a previous decision to close the camp, giving residents until the end of December to leave Iraq.

Saddam Hussein gave it shelter in Iraq and some of its guerrillas fought with him against Iran. The group surrendered its weapons to U.S. forces after the 2003 invasion that toppled Saddam.

The U.S. military turned the camp over to Iraq in 2009 under a bilateral security pact between the two countries.

the statement



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... In April 1996, I was taken to Camp Ashraf where I received military training. Day after day, the conditions were deteriorating for me. You had to attend brainwashing meetings where you were verbally abused and you couldn't say a word to defend yourself. You were forced to work hard in the very hot weather of Iraq... Briefly, I'd say that You have no power to think in Camp Ashraf. You have to do anything Maryam and Massoud say. You are like a slave. You are just given food and you have no other advantages, no access to free world and no contact with your family ...



Mr. Saeed Naseri'

In their later visit, they suggested three options including staying in Abu Quraib because of my illegal arrival to Iraqi soil, being handed over to Iranian security forces and joining MKO.

The third option was the one they insisted on a lot. They told me "If you join Mujahedin, you will easily go to Europe to continue your education. So I chose the last option in dream of moving to Europe in six months.

In April 1996, I was taken to Camp Ashraf where I received military training. Day after day, the conditions were deteriorating for me. You had to attend brainwashing meetings where you were verbally abused and you couldn't say a word to defend yourself. You were forced to work hard in the very hot weather of Iraq...

Briefly, I'd say that You have no power to think in Camp Ashraf. You have to do anything Maryam and Massoud say. You are like a slave. You are just given food and you have no other advantages, no access to free world and no contact with your family.

Finally after two years I decided to leave the camp so I wrote it to my senior official. The result was catastrophic. The same night the officials called me, holding meeting where they terribly insulted me for a long time until after midnight. The next morning they gave me a paper to sign. I noticed that was a document that indicated I would be imprisoned for two years in departure section of the camp (solitary confinement) and then I would be delivered to Iraqi forces to be

Translated by Nejat Society, March 02, 2011

<http://www.nejatngo.org/en/post.aspx?id=3529>

<http://iran-interlink.org/fa/?mod=view&id=9496>

I'm Saeed Naseri. In 1996, I left Iran in order to travel to Europe where I was supposed to continue my studies.

I entered Iraqi territory to reach Camp Ramadi from where I was supposed to set off for Europe but Iraqi security forces arrested and imprisoned me. After a month, two MKO members came over to visit me in Abu Quraib. They asked some questions about my motivations of coming to Iraq.



The Iranian Pen Club

jailed in Abu Quraib for eight more years ... So I decided to choose between bad and worse. I chose bad and stayed in Ashraf where I burned fifteen years of my life.

After the collapse of Baath regime, I found a chance to escape Camp Ashraf and join Iraqi forces. I could begin a new life. Now I'm very content of living in a free world. I'm able to think and decide freely and to contact my family. I wholeheartedly hope that my ex-comrades in Ashraf will be able to live a free life too.

... I want to warn others about the trap I was captured in. I want to warn them about false propaganda of MKO. When I arrived in MKO; I thought I could leave it whenever I wanted but in fact nobody dares to say a single word about leaving. If you express your defection, they will mobilize the whole members to insult or even beat you in their so-called meetings. They threaten you with two years of jail in Camp Ashraf and eight years in Abu Quraib ... I myself witnessed a lot of examples of such maltreatments. Today I'm really happy for my life in a free world and I can offer my experiences to those who are at risk of being caught in Rajavi's trap ...



Mr. Kohzadi

Translated by Nejat Society, March 01, 2011

<http://www.nejatngo.org/en/post.aspx?id=3528>

<http://iran-interlink.org/fa/?mod=view&id=9481>

Mr. Homayoon Kohzadi could manage to leave Rajavi's cult. Arriving in free world he declared his separation from Mujahedin Khalq Organization. The following is his statement:

I'm Homayoon Kohzadi. I entered Iraqi territory in 1996 and wasted 15 years of my life in MKO because I thought I was in the right path but after a few months, I found out that I had made a big mistake.

I realized that there was no mark of that democracy and freedom MKO propaganda claimed. I decided to leave the organization. I declared my defection but they didn't accept. They told me that I had to be imprisoned in MKO prison for two years and then in an Iraqi prison for 8 years. Then Iraqi government would decide for my fate. So I got forced stay

in the organization because I knew about the terrible conditions of Iraqi prison, AbuQuraib.

I also tried to leave the group several more times and every time they reacted by holding meetings [of self-criticism] for me.

My departure after 15 years!

You definitely wonder how I could be able to leave. After the fall of Saddam Hussein, Iraqi new government started interviewing MKO members. I used the opportunity to express my willingness for leaving the Camp to the Iraqi official. Fortunately I succeeded to leave the group.

I want to warn others about the trap I was captured in. I want to warn them about false propaganda of MKO. When I arrived in MKO; I thought I could leave it whenever I wanted but in fact nobody dares to say a single word about leaving. If you express your defection, they will mobilize the whole members to insult or even beat you in their so-called meetings. They threaten you with two years of jail in Camp Ashraf and eight years in Abu Quraib ... I myself witnessed a lot of examples of such maltreatments.

Today I'm really happy for my life in a free world and I can offer my experiences to those who are at risk of being caught in Rajavi's trap.



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Mr. Mahmoud Sepahi

... I'm Mahmoud Sepahi. In 2000, when I was residing in UAE in hope of immigration to the United States, I was deceived by MKO recruiters and taken to Iraq. When I asked for leaving Ashraf I was threatened to be imprisoned in Ashraf for two years and then I would be handed to Iraqi forces who would in turn jail me in Abu Quraib for eight years and finally I would be exchanged with Iraqi prisoners of war and would be delivered to Iranian government. Thus I remained in damned Camp Ashraf for nine years. At last they kicked me out of Ashraf because according to them I had "problems of woman and life" and ...

Mr. Mahmoud Sepahi

Announces separation from Mojahedin Khalq

Translated by Nejat Society, March 08 2011

<http://www.nejatngo.org/en/post.aspx?id=3539>

<http://iran-interlink.org/fa/?mod=view&id=9537>

Mr. Sepahi spent nine years in Rajavi's cult. He could release himself and arrive in free world two years ago. He announced his separation from the cult in the following statement:

I'm Mahmoud Sepahi. In 2000, when I was residing in UAE in hope of immigration to the United States, I was deceived by MKO recruiters and taken to Iraq. After a few days, I found out the lies they had told me and that I had been taken there to remain in Camp Ashraf. Since the early days, I asked them to let me get back to UAE but they created so terrible condition for me that I was convinced to stay there.

I entered the organization which was not only like the hell but also like a political lunatic center. Every day, there were numerous meetings under various titles such as "Current Operation" which was held in order to suppress dissidents. During the meetings, the commandants verbally abused members with the most horrendous foul-mouthed language that you could never ever believe and you didn't dare to reply one word to defend yourself.

When I asked for leaving Ashraf I was threatened to be imprisoned in Ashraf for two years and then I would be handed to Iraqi forces who would in turn jail me in Abu Quraib for eight years and finally I would be exchanged with Iraqi prisoners of war and would be delivered to Iranian government. Thus I remained in damned Camp Ashraf for nine years. At last they kicked me out of Ashraf because according to them I had "problems of woman and life" and I hadn't accepted the organization.



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When I declared my eagerness to leave the camp, first they tried to flatter me. Then they held numerous meetings for fourteen days but I succeeded to flee all their traps and released myself. In 2009, I could reach Europe by help of my family.

Today in Feb. 22, 2011, I declare my complete separation from Mujahedin Khalq. I'm thankful to my God who helped me arrive in free world, live a free life and decide for my own future. I hope that my bitter experience will enlighten others who are at risk of being captured by such a terrorist destructive cult so that they won't lose the best period of their life.

Washington Backed Mojahedin Khalq (MKO, MEK, NCRI, PMOI, Rajavi cult) terrorists in Iraq



... Deaths resulting from an Iraqi army raid on an Iranian opposition camp on its soil were caused by the camp's own guards firing on residents attempting to escape, an Iraqi spokesman said Thursday. The comments from Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh came shortly after a United Nations spokesman in New York said 34 people were

killed in the April 8 raid on Camp Ashraf, the residence of the People's Mujahedeen of Iran (PMOI), in Diyala province north of Baghdad. "Our Iraqi security forces believe that this (the deaths) has been done by their (the PMOI) guards killing those who were willing to escape from the camp," Dabbagh said in a text message to AFP, adding that the government was investigating the issue ...

Agence France Presse, 15 April , 2011

<http://afp.com>

Deaths resulting from an Iraqi army raid on an Iranian opposition camp on its soil were caused by the camp's own guards firing on residents attempting to escape, an Iraqi spokesman said Thursday.

The comments from Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh came shortly after a United Nations spokesman in New York said 34 people were killed in the April 8 raid on Camp Ashraf, the residence of the People's Mujahedeen of Iran (PMOI), in Diyala province north of Baghdad.

"Our Iraqi security forces believe that this (the deaths) has been done by their (the PMOI) guards killing those who were willing to escape from the camp," Dabbagh said in a text message to AFP, adding that the government was investigating the issue.

"Similar methods have been used before by them."

Deputy UN spokesman Farhan Haq earlier told AFP in New York: "We are aware of 34 bodies at Camp Ashraf and nearby."

A spokesman for the camp gave the same death toll, but Iraqi security and hospital officials have said three died.

The PMOI used Camp Ashraf, which houses some 3,500 people, as a base for launching attacks on Iran during the rule of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, but US forces disarmed the group after the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

Dabbagh also said that Iraq was willing to provide "all logistical support to facilitate the desires of Camp Ashraf residents who want to leave Iraq."

On Monday, Dabbagh said that the PMOI had to leave Iraq by the end of the year.



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Former members of MKO welcomed in a meeting in Germany

17 March 2011

In a meeting held in Koln, Germany in March 2011, Ms. Batoul Soltani, former member of MKO's leadership Council congratulated three recently separated members of Mujahedin Khalq living in Germany, Mr. Mehrdad Sagharchi, Mr. Rouhollah Tajbakhsh, Mr. Mehdi Sojoudi for their new life in free world. She also congratulated the international Woman's Day, hoping the release of women captured in the cult of Rajavi.



The three ex-members told the audience some of their bitter experiences in MKO. They mentioned the group's tricks and deceitful approaches to recruit members.

They spoke of the suffocating, closed atmosphere of inside the cult where members are not allowed to marry, to contact their family, to watch TV or to read newspapers. They just have to work so hard that they could not find any opportunity to think.

Although the atmosphere of Camp Ashraf is terribly oppressive, escaping the cult is not impossible, according to former members; people should only decide to save themselves from the bars of Ashraf. They also suggested their preparedness to help their ex-friends in Camp Ashraf.

At the end, Ms. Soltani promised salvation of captives of Ashraf in near future, promoted by families picketing at Ashraf gates.

Translated by Nejat Society



The Iranian Pen Club

Panorama

No . 1

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