



IRAN TODAY & TOMORROW

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

The Committee in Support of Referendum in Iran (CSRI), a 501(c)(3), non-profit and independent group, is committed to advance change in Iran through an internationally monitored referendum as the only peaceful means to bring democracy and establish a secular and representative government in Iran.

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Nuclear proliferation

Rowhani: Iran determined to set up, supply fuel to 7 nuclear power plants

Fars news agency, Oct. 11 - In a meeting with Nazarbayev, Kazakhstan's President, the Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, said: "Iran has decided to create seven nuclear power plants and be self-sufficient in supplying part of the fuel required for them, and it is determined to go ahead with this decision."

U.S. sees Iran entering production phase of uranium enrichment

Kyodo, Oct. 9 - The United States believes Iran's uranium enrichment is entering the full production stage from the experimental phase, a senior U.S. administration official said Saturday. Noting Iran has converted "several tons" of uranium into hexafluoride; the feed material for centrifuges used to make weapons-grade uranium, the official told Kyodo News that it implies a "pretty extensive operation." The official, requesting anonymity, indicated it would be unavoidable for the United States to seek to bring the Iranian nuclear case to the U.N. Security Council for possible sanctions. "They don't have any intention of giving up the nuclear program," he said... "As long as they can now get the warhead to Eastern and Central Europe, which I think they can in this range, then they can intimidate" Europe, he said.

Tehran's new combat doctrine relies on deep-strike capability

World Net Daily, Oct. 9 - Iran has introduced what officials termed a new combat doctrine meant to repel any attack by Israel or the United States, reports Geostrategy-Direct, the global intelligence news service. Officials have termed the doctrine "asymmetric warfare" and said it was aimed at countering a threat from a much larger and more powerful adversary. They said the combat doctrine seeks to identify and exploit Iranian military advantages in any war with a foreign power. The new doctrine was demonstrated during the Ashura-5 military exercise in September... IRGC commander Gen. Yahya Rahim-Safavi said Iran developed the concept of asymmetric warfare based on the assessment that Teheran's greatest threats came from Israel and the United States. Teheran has sought to deter these two countries by demonstrating Iran's deep-strike capability, he said. "They know full well that if they start an onslaught against us, we will not be confined to our land borders and that we will attack them outside the boundaries of our land borders."

Resumed enrichment activity will deepen crisis – Blix

IRNA, Oct. 8 – Hans Blix, former chair of UN arms inspectors expressed concern over Iran's resumption of its uranium enrichment program. He said resumption of uranium enrichment by Tehran will deepen the crisis in that region.

Guards commander intimidates the West, warns against mullahs' drowning ship

Mehr Agency, Oct. 7 - Rahim Safavi, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Guards Corps, threatened to aggravate insecurity in the entire region. He said Iran is able to upset the Middle East's equations. Safavi added, "Our enemies can not omit Iran from international equations and the Americans and the West must accept Iran's nuclear power." Criticizing those (officials) who try to draw a gloomy picture of the government's conduct, the commander of the Revolutionary Guards Corps said: "All officials are in a boat called the Islamic Republic and if this boat is pierced, everyone will be drowned."



Internatinal Front against Fundamentalist Mullahs

Senior Iraqi sheik elaborates on Iranian meddling in Iraq

Al-Safeer semi-weekly, Oct. 11 – On the interferences of the neighboring governments which undermine Iraq's security, Sheikh Hussein Shaalan Al-Zobeidi, president of the Central Council of Iraqi Shiekh and Tribe Leaders, told *Al-Safeer*, "Iran's rulers are the one who interfere the most in Iraq's affairs. The Iraqi government clearly announced through the Defense Minister and the Interior Minister that the Iranian regime carries out acts of sabotage against Iraq and deploys various methods including through hired agents, dispatching teams of saboteurs, or meddling in Iraq's politics. "We believe that the reason for all these interferences is because the borders are completely open. Iraqi officials announced that they have arrested Iranian and Iraqi gangs recruited by Iran's Intelligence Ministry to carry out murder, explosion, looting and plunder and create religious conflicts and some of them in the south have even called for separation from Iraq. This is an old Iranian plot that the Iraqi people are familiar with. We say the statements of the Iraqi officials are one hundred percent right. "Our analysis is that Iran is going through a political chaos and it has accounts to settle with Iraqi and American parties. Therefore, it has turned Iraq into a place for settling its accounts with all its enemies. As a matter of fact, stability and security of Iraq is tantamount to the termination of the rule of Iran's rulers. For this reason, they work to destabilize Iraq and preserve their own grab on power. "Previously, we thought that it was the former (Iraqi) regime that made aggressions on Iran and began the war. But today, who is attacking Iran to instigate such interferences in our affairs? Another reason is that the former regime retreated from Iranian territory and returned to the pre-war international borders. At that time, the People's Mojahedin fought Iraq alongside the Iranian Army. However, when Iraq returned to the (international) borders, they felt that the war was no longer legitimate and they abandoned the fight. The Iranian regime fought and dispersed them and inflicted all kinds of torture and murder on them. "We are convinced that the PMOI is a humanitarian organization that believes in peace, stability and benevolence. We know that the PMOI has experienced much hardship under the Shah and is facing much suffering under the mullahs. We say that the PMOI is an organization representing the pain and suffering of the Iranian people and the future belongs to it..."

U.S. House reps call for tougher sanctions on Iran

Kayhan daily, Oct. 9 – A number of members of the U.S. House of Representatives from both the Democratic and Republican parties, jointly submitted a bill last week that once ratified by the Legislative Branch, will tighten up the current sanctions on Iran. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), chair of the Middle East and Central Asia subcommittee, and Tom Lantos (D-CA), a ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, are the main sponsors of the bill to tighten the present bill on sanctions against Iran. A number of the signatories of this bill, especially Lantos and Ros-Lehtinen, have close relations with some representatives of the MKO in the United States.



Support for Iranian opposition

Al-Safeer semi-weekly, Oct. 6 – Mark Reyman, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly, stressed in a statement: "Supporting the Iranian Resistance is essential to fighting terrorism. Naturally, removing the name of the main Iranian resistance movement, the People's Mojahedin, from the European Union's terror list is an obligation for all those who struggle for democracy in Iran. The EU's failure to discern the political situation in Iran is a genuine scandal that must be revealed immediately and powerfully."

Exporting terrorism and Meddling in Iraq

Official accuses Iran of exporting narcotics to Iraq

Iran Focus Oct. 14 Bagdad- In a press conference in Jordan the head of the Iraqi Judiciary Council accused Iran of channelling in a variety of illegal drugs into Iraq cities. "Iran is presently bringing in large amounts of different drugs using its surrogates under the cover of social and political research," Dr. Madhat Mahmoud told journalists in Amman. He also said that a considerable number of Iranian agents disguised as pilgrims are importing and distributing narcotics throughout Iraq's holy cities and elsewhere. The council chief added that the extent of Iranian operation in Iraq was so great that it was virtually impossible for Iraqi forces to crack down affectively on this 'Mafia business'. He also accused Iran of garnering funds gained from the drug profits and then distributing it to rival Iraqi groups to win their support. He further revealed that a number of drug lords who were arrested for their crimes admitted to acting as mercenaries for the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security.

Iran plots Ramadan infiltration in Iraq

The Washington Times Washington Times Oct 12 By Jennifer Joan Lee, PARIS — A top Iranian dissident living in Paris says up to 800 clerics and theology students from Iran are in the process of infiltrating cities in neighboring Iraq in time for the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, which begins Friday. Ayatollah Jalal Ganje'i, a prominent critic of the Iranian regime, said in an interview with The Washington Times that the influx is part of continuing efforts by Tehran's power brokers to exploit the crisis in Iraq in order to set up a sister fundamentalist Islamic republic. The religious leaders, dispatched by the Islamic Propaganda Organization, plan to use the holy month to propagate militant Islamic views, he said, with the goal of strengthening Iraqi political groups whose philosophy and aims coincide with those of Iran's theocratic regime. The cleric said the religious leaders will take their message into Kut, Nasariyah, Amarra, Najaf, Basra and Baghdad, joining a massive network of other Iranian agents already in Iraq, many in armed underground cells. "I expect the violence to increase, and this will also set the stage for further meddling in upcoming Iraqi elections," said Ayatollah Ganje'i, who is affiliated with the National Council of Resistance, a State Department-designated terrorist group. Also known as the People's Mujahideen Organization of Iran, the group was the first to reveal details of Iran's nuclear activities. "Iran is hoping to use the January elections to bring its own Islamic fundamentalists to power," the cleric said. He did not specify which leaders Tehran was working with in Iraq. Speaking at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York last week, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld similarly said there has been "a lot of meddling" by Iranians in Iraq. "They clearly want to affect the outcome of the election, and they are aggressively trying to do that," he said. "They're sending money in, they're sending weapons in, and they're notably unhelpful." Mr. Rumsfeld said millions of refugees and pilgrims regularly travel between the porous border separating Iran and Iraq, adding, "There's no way we could stop the flow of these pilgrims."

An official at the Iranian Interests Section in Washington referred a request for comment to a telephone number in New York, which was out of service. Ayatollah Ganje'i is a former student of Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who fled the country in 1982 after being sentenced to death for his anti-fundamentalist views. He cited his network

of contacts among Iran's clergy as the source of his information. He said four Iranian institutions — the Revolutionary Guards, the Ministry of Intelligence and Security, the state radio and television and the clergy — are coordinating the activities in Iraq. He also charged that Tehran has spent \$70 million sending weapons and manpower, including suicide bombers, into Iraq. Since the overthrow of Saddam Hussein in April 2003, thousands of Iranian clerics have crossed into Iraq, bringing books, compact discs and audiotapes promoting their version of Islam. Ayatollah Ganje'i said they had devised a two-pronged strategy to take over the country: first, by opening charities, clinics and health care centers to win the hearts of the local people, and second, by spreading armed underground cells that would conduct strikes against coalition forces. In an interview with the Arabic newspaper Asharq Al-Awsat in July, Iraqi Defense Minister Hazem Shaalan declared that the Iranian intrusion had been "vast and unprecedented since the establishment of the new Iraqi state." He said Iranians had "penetrated the country's sensitive centers and set up many intelligence and security centers." "In the last year and a half, there has been a concerted effort to intervene in Iraqi affairs. This is something that has been widely underestimated by the West," Ayatollah Ganje'i said. •Sharon Behn contributed to this report in Washington.

138 including Iranians arrested in Iraq

Al-Iraqiya TV, Oct. 11 – The Iraqi National Guard arrested 138 Iranians and Afghans in Al-Amara and Naseriya who had illegally crossed the border into Iraq.



Iranian Intel - Tehran harboring bin Laden

2 officials say they've seen terrorist under care of Revolutionary Guard

World Net Daily, Oct. 8 - Iran's cleric leaders are harboring Osama bin Laden, according to two Iranian intelligence officials cited in a new book. The sources say they have seen the al-Qaida terrorist leader alive and well, although he no longer resembles the picture on FBI wanted posters. Author Richard Miniter writes in "Shadow War: The Untold Story of How Bush Is Winning the War on Terror" that bin Laden "has trimmed his beard to fit the more traditional look of a Shi'ite cleric and he seemed to have put on weight, according to intelligence officials."

The sources say bin Laden is constantly on the move, "shuttling from Iranian safe houses controlled by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard to areas of Afghanistan controlled by the Iranian-backed warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar." "Choopan," one of the sources, gives three reasons why Tehran would give safe haven to bin Laden, risking the wrath of the West. "First, the Iranians believe they can keep bin Laden's presence a secret and plausibly deny it if publicly accused," Miniter writes. "Second, the mullahs are feeling increasingly threatened by the War on Terror.

"The mullahs, Choopan says, fear a counter-revolution and see bin Laden's fighters as tools they can use to ensure the failure of these young democracies in Iraq and Afghanistan and the survival of mullah-dominated Iran. Finally, they share enemies, including many Arab leaders, the United States and the rest of the Western world." The book, launched earlier this week by Regnery, publisher of "Unfit for Command," already is No. 2 on the Amazon.com list.

Dragging a neighbor into anarchy

National Post, Oct. 7 - U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell recently told the International Herald Tribune that "Iran is providing support for the insurgency in Iraq." He added, however, that "the extent of its influence over insurgent forces is not clear." But it is very clear to Iraqis themselves -- including Iraq's Defence Minister, Hazem Shaalan....Iran is largely a nation of Shiite Muslims. The same religious group constitutes a majority of Iraq's citizens, and so Shiites will likely get their way when expected elections are held next year. Moreover, the most influential and organized Iraqi Shiite parties are deeply influenced by Iran, ideologically as well as politically...Iraqi media have recently reported that a truckload

containing 1,800 82-mm mortar rounds, three mortar launchers, 250 Katyusha rockets and large quantities of explosives was seized in transit from Iran to Iraq. Iranian independent opposition sources say 4,000 Shiite clerics from Iran have been sent to Iraq since the fall of Saddam's regime.

Why is Iran stirring up Iraq's guerrilla war when it might just as easily profit from a smooth transition to democracy? The answer lies in Iran's domestic affairs: If Iran, a dictatorship, were to permit a truly democratic political structure to take root next door, it would only provide encouragement to the millions of young Iranians who have been militating for similar reforms back home...In the long run, promoting stability in Iraq will require democratization in Iran -- for Tehran's theocrats will never accept a democracy on their western border. Until that day, the United States and other Western nations should hold Tehran to account for the violence and chaos it is deliberately fomenting. It is bad enough that 70 million Iranians must live under tyranny. Iraq's population must not be allowed to suffer the same fate.

Iranian Revolutionary Guards occupy Iraqi soil

[Iran Focus Oct. 8 Baghdad](#), – Crack troops of the Qods Force (Jerusalem Force), the extraterritorial force of Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps, operating out of their base in the border town of Mehran, have seized Iraqi territories in Zeyn al-Qos, Seif Sa'ad and al-Amarah regions, according to reports from the area. In recent months, forces of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) have moved their main headquarters from central Iranian provinces to those on the Iran-Iraq border. These include Marivan in the north, Mehran in the center, and Shalamcheh in the south. Qods Force's commanders oversee and direct their operations inside Iraq from these border bases. The principle task of the Qods Force is to spread Iran's "Islamic revolution" to other parts of the Muslim world. The Qods Force has been particularly active in the Iraqi theater and last April, Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei decorated Qods Force Commandant General Qassem Soleimani for his "success in promoting Islamic revolution in Iraq." News of the decoration was not made public. Iraqi sources say that Iran has been setting up and financing "Islamic libraries" throughout southern and central Iraq and uses them as a conduit to wage propaganda and recruit young Iraqis.

Sinai massacre – an Iranian-Hizballah-al Qaeda Co-production

[DEBKA File, Exclusive Report, Oct. 8](#) - Friday, October 8, on the morning after a terrorist bombing rampage at three idyllic Sinai desert resorts – with two dozen known dead and scores still missing – the first clues have been found to the identities of the hands behind the massacre and their targets. DEBKAF's intelligence and counter-terror sources report that the explosives used to tear away the entire frontage of the Taba Hilton and hit the Nueiba oasis campside further south on the Red Sea coast were of Iranian manufacture; the same make as the bombs used in the 1996 Khobar Towers blast and the 2003 Istanbul attacks.

Demonstrations and protest in Iran

Lorestan University students go on hunger strike

[Iran Focus Oct. 12, Tehran](#), - Students from Lorestan University resumed a hunger strike in protest to lack of rights of expression. The students had originally started their hunger strike last Saturday but then suspended it when local government officials promised to resolve outstanding issues. Following an announcement by an official of the regime in the Iranian province of Lorestan that students no longer have a right to vote on major reforms in their universities, angry and frustrated students have recommenced a general hunger strike in protest. No timeline has been announced and it is unknown how long the students plan to continue the strike. The deputy head of the student union of Lorestan University stated "Muslim students of the agricultural department of Lorestan University have once again gone on hunger strike." Students claim that 25 other academic unions from universities across Iran have announced their support for the protesters.

Armed attack on SSF HQ leaves three repressive commanders dead

ISNA, Oct. 10 - After yesterday clashes in Miando-ab between religious minorities in the nearby Owj Tappeh village and the State Security Forces, three men armed with AK-47s attacked the morning ceremony at the headquarters of the State Security Forces in Miando-ab and gunned down the SSF agents. According to eyewitnesses, three State Security Force commanders and agents, including two top commanders in this headquarters were killed and another three were wounded.

Deteriorating conditions of human rights

One million Iranians living under absolute poverty line

Hamshahri, Oct. 9 – One out of 70 million of Iran's population live under the absolute poverty line. In that national gathering of Social Security directors in Tabris, Sharif Zadgan, the Minister of Welfare and Aid, said it is the government's duty to aid every citizen achieve social welfare. He added, "The most important mission of the Ministry of Welfare in this regard is to concentrate on the government's social policy making and especially on social welfare."

Death sentences for woman, two men in Tehran

Sharq daily, Oct. 9 - Death sentences were issued for two men and a woman in Tehran. Fatemeh, Arash and Abbass will be executed in the Evin prison on Wednesday.

Journalist's arrest in Iran upsets U.S.

The Associated Press, Oct. 9, Washington – The United States said yesterday it is concerned Iran has arrested a journalist and stopped him from picking up a rights award in New York in a sign of what it called worsening violations in the Islamic Republic. Emadeddin Baghi was due to receive a Civil Courage Award on Monday from the Northcote Parkinson Fund, which said he had previously been imprisoned for exposing the killings of intellectuals.

AI: Imminent execution of a woman

Amnesty International, Oct. 8 - Fatemeh Haghighat-Pajouh has reportedly been sentenced to death for the murder of her husband, who allegedly tried to rape her 15 year old daughter. She is reportedly at risk of imminent execution.

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