



International Liberty Association Newsletter

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Editorial

As we prepare this issue of our newsletter we are very aware of the spirits of the 52 men and women slaughtered in Ashraf on 1 September one year ago. They nestle in our hearts within the remembrance of the 30,000, many of them so very young, who had their lives cut short in Iran's prisons during this period in 1988. Across the span of quarter of a century, they are united by a common cause, their steadfast and unflinching commitment, even unto death, to the PMOI and their goal of a free Iran based on the principles of love, justice and truth.

Many of the perpetrators of the atrocities of 1988 still hold high office in Iran. Not least of these is Hassan Rouhani, in post as the newly appointed "moderate" Prime Minister of Iran when the 52 died in Ashraf in 2013, steeped in the blood of the past due to his position within the regime during those dreadful weeks of 1988.

We are immensely grateful and appreciative of all the strenuous efforts being made to raise awareness of these past Crimes against Humanity and to bring those responsible to justice.

At the same time, the changes in Iraq since our last newsletter have brought us to a new point in our concern for the 2,800 residents of Ashraf remaining confined in the squalid prison conditions of Camp Liberty.

It is too early to be clear as to what extent the reins of power will be shared with the other parties of the political spectrum and what effect this will have on the peace and stability of the country and the welfare of the people of Ashraf in Camp Liberty.

What is clear is that the last transitional days of Maliki's period as Prime Minister are fraught with challenges. The siege conditions at

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MPs call for protection of Camp Liberty residents

In a cross party parliamentary conference in the House of Commons on the last day before the Summer recess, MPs and Peers from both Houses addressed the Iranian regime's destructive role in the region,

particularly in Iraq and Syria, and called for more vigilance on protection of the Iranian dissidents at Camp Liberty.

Lord Carlile of Berriew CBE QC who chaired the conference held announced

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UNHCR: Conflict in Iraq continues to affect residents of Camp Liberty

In a statement published on 5 August 2014 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN agency expressed concern over the situation of Iranian refugees in Camp Liberty, Iraq.

According to the UN refugee agency the dramatic deterioration of the security situation



in Iraq as a result of the fighting is equally worrying in the context of the efforts – on-going since 2011 – of UNHCR and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) to find relocation opportunities outside Iraq for former residents

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UN rights experts condemn the wave of arrests in Iran

GENEVA: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 8 August 2014

United Nations human rights experts expressed grave concern over the recent escalating trend of arrest and sentencing of individuals exercising their rights to freedom of expression and opinion, peaceful assembly and association.



Since 22 May 2014, at least 36 individuals that include journalists, bloggers, filmmakers and authors, many of whom are also human rights activists, have been arrested, summoned, or sentenced in connection with their journalistic activities or for simply expressing their opinion on social media websites.

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MPs call for protection of Camp Liberty residents *continued from p.1*



the initiative “Support Human Rights and Democracy in Iran” signed by more than 400 MPs and Peers from both Houses and all parties.

The participants also highlighted the emerging threats against the Iranian Refugees in Camp Liberty and warned about the regime’s plots to take

advantage of the current crisis in Iraq in order to annihilate the residents of the camp through attacks by its terrorist Quds-Force and its mercenaries in Iraq.

“Besides repression at home, the religious dictatorship continues its export of terrorism to countries such as Syria, Iraq and Lebanon and pursues its secret nuclear programme”, the 400 MPs and Peers said in this statement.

The statement also calls for referral of “Iran’s dossier of human rights violations to the UN Security Council and the International Criminal Court in order to bring the perpetrators to justice”.

The appalling human rights record of the Iranian regime, its race towards acquiring nuclear weapons as well as

its unabated support for terrorism and religious fundamentalism throughout the world and thus a need for democratic change in Iran, were among the major topics discussed at the conference.

Speakers at the conference included Lord Carlile of Berriew CBE QC; Brian Binley MP; Prof. Lord Alton of Liverpool; Lord Maginnis of Drumglass; Lord Clarke of Hampstead; Lord Cotter; Steve McCabe MP; Sir Alan Meale MP; Dr Matthew Offord MP; Jim Fitzpatrick MP; Sir Edward Leigh MP; Jim Shannon MP; Tahar Boumedra, Former UN Human Rights Chief in Iraq; David Vaughen QC; Prof. Sara Chandler, member of the Law Society Council; and Malcolm Fowler.

UNHCR: CONFLICT IN IRAQ CONTINUES TO AFFECT RESIDENTS OF CAMP LIBERTY *continued from p.1*

of Camp New Iraq (formerly Ashraf). Approximately 2,800 people reside in the Temporary Transit Location (Camp Liberty) near the Baghdad International Airport.

The escalation in conflict across Iraq leaves residents of ‘Camp Liberty’ open to significantly heightened security risks.

In light of the current situation, UNHCR urgently renews its calls upon governments of other countries to admit residents and to find ways to offer long term solutions to all. If long term solutions cannot be made available immediately, the urgent need to relocate the residents would justify an extraordinary evacuation to a temporary platform from where they could be permanently relocated to a third country. UNHCR stands ready to assist states in achieving this.

UNHCR deeply appreciates the measures taken by

some countries already to relocate residents to situations of safety and security. These measures contribute greatly to international efforts to find solutions for this group of people.

In the statement the UN refugee agency emphasizes that all residents of Camp Liberty registered with UNHCR are persons of concern to UNHCR. They are thus entitled to protection against expulsion or forced movement to any place where their lives or freedom would be threatened. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Iraq and the United Nations explicitly recognizes that residents benefit from the principle of non-refoulement.

UNHCR calls again upon the Government of Iraq to take all possible measures to ensure the safety and well-being of residents, including ensuring access to life saving medical treatment.

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Camp Liberty have been intensified such that, as we write this, the sewage containers, not allowed to be emptied, are over-spilling and the fuel supply has run out, so that the pumps for providing water and the air-conditioning units, needed to combat the 48C temperatures, cannot be operated, putting all the inmates in mortal danger.

As we go to press, we do not know just what the outcome of these events will be. However, what we do know is that support for the Ashrafis in Camp Liberty has only been strengthened by their

increasingly inhumane treatment by Al-Maliki’s forces, still acting as proxies for the Iranian regime, together with the continuing silence and inaction from the corridors of power in the UN, US, UK, EU, despite their many obligations to protect these defenceless men and women.

Walking in the footsteps of the 52, the 30,000, the 120,000 in total who have given their lives for freedom for Iran and never wavering in their courage, dignity and perseverance, those in Camp Liberty have become an even more powerful magnet, a unifying rallying post, not only for the millions of Iranians worldwide, but for all who wish

to see truth and justice flourish, an end to extremism and humanitarian values at the heart of policy.

So we ask you not to focus on the darkness, but on the light. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you have done to keep our precious people safe in Liberty and to increase awareness of the issues and obstacles to progress.

As a result of all our efforts, worldwide support continues to grow and gather momentum and we are sure that, with just a little more from all of us, truth and justice will prevail, Iran will be free and the region and the world a safer and happier place because of it.



UN RIGHTS EXPERTS CONDEMN THE WAVE OF ARRESTS IN IRAN *continued from p.1*

Some of them have also been charged with ‘gathering and colluding against national security’ following their participation in peaceful assemblies.

“Convicting individuals for expressing their opinion is absolutely unacceptable,” the experts stressed. “Freedom of expression and opinion is necessary for the realization of all human rights, and it is a right reserved for all individuals, even if that individual expresses an opinion with which the Government disagrees.” A number of these cases include situations where persons are held in solitary confinement or unknown locations and for unknown charges. Many of the trials were allegedly riddled with procedural irregularities, including deprivation of legal representation and exclusion from attending one’s own sentencing.

These individuals have been sentenced with prison terms ranging from six-months to more than twenty-years duration. Furthermore, at least one individual was sentenced to 50 lashings and another to death.

“The imposition of sentences in conjunction with unfair trial and lack of due process, on charges that do not warrant death or lengthy prison terms, constitutes a dismal violation of international human rights law,” the independent experts noted.

Iranian author Mr. Arzhang Davoodi was recently sentenced to death on the charge of ‘Moharebeh’ (enmity against God), in connection with his alleged membership and support to an

Iranian dissident group, an allegation based on a comment he made about the group. Neither he, nor his attorney, was reportedly present during the trial.

“It is completely unacceptable that an individual be sentenced to death on charge of Moharebeh for merely speaking one’s opinion,” the UN human rights experts said.

“Not only is this a blatant violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, it also breaches the country’s own Islamic Penal Code, which reserves the death penalty only for those who have actively taken up arms.”

The human rights experts stressed that “such extreme convictions are simply intolerable and must be overturned.”

On 22 July 2014, Jason Rezaian, a reporter with the Washington Post, and his wife Yeganeh Salehi, a correspondent for the United Arab Emirates newspaper *The National*, were arrested, along with an unidentified American-Iranian photo journalist and her husband. Mr. Rezaian and Ms. Salehi are reportedly held in unknown locations.

“These cases exemplify the alarming negative trend taking place in Iran. Individuals and journalists exercising their right to freedom of expression and opinion must be protected, not arrested and prosecuted,” they noted.

“This behavior strengthens our belief that the motive behind these cases is to solely suppress the freedoms protected by national and international law,” they

said, stressing that it also goes against the pledges and commitments made by senior Government officials to decrease restrictions on freedom of expression as well as increase the security of the press.

The experts reminded the authorities of their obligations under international human rights law, which guarantees the rights to hold opinions, assemble peacefully and associate freely, without interference.

“We urge the Iranian Government to “immediately and unconditionally release all individuals held in connection with their exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and those charged for carrying out their legitimate activities as journalists,” they concluded.

The experts who prepared this report included: The Chair Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Mads Andenas; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran, Ahmed Shaheed; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Christof Heyns; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, David Kaye; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, Maina Kiai; the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, Gabriela Knaut; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Michel Forst.





Iranians commemorate September 2013 Massacre in Camp Ashraf

Iranians in Paris gathered in the centre of the city last Saturday to commemorate the massacre of residents of Ashraf on 1 September 2013, by al-Maliki forces at the behest of the Iranian regime.

52 of the 100 remaining residents of Ashraf were killed in a hideous assault by forces closely associated with the Iraqi PM, Nuri al-Maliki and seven residents including six women were taken hostage.

In a clear case of crime against humanity, many of the victims were executed while their hands were tied be-

hind their backs, others while receiving treatment in the camp's medical centre.

The calls for an independent investigation to this appalling crime were not headed by the Iraqi government and the international community, in particular the United States and UN who have direct legal and contractual responsibility for protection of the residents, failed to implement the international instruments to make such an inquiry possible. Their failure to investigate 5 similar crimes against humanity at Ashraf and Liberty have

emboldened Maliki's regime to refuse to give out the information about the 7 Ashraf hostages.

In the wake of the current situation in Iraq, the protesters demanded the UN to take urgent action to protect the remaining dissidents in Camp Liberty.



UN must station Blue Helmets at Camp Liberty



Mr Jean Ziegler, member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council, Wednesday 13 August called on the United Nations to station Blue Helmets to protect Iranian refugees in Camp Liberty.

Mr Ziegler told the Swiss TV channel Leman Blue: "We in

the United Nations Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council have two demand: Firstly, we want the United Nations to launch a credible international investigation into the massacre in Ashraf which left tens killed. Secondly we demand that the UN Blue Helmets provide protection for the residents of Camp Liberty whose lives are in danger daily.



George Robertson QC: about the 1988 massacre



It is the worst single event of the post-war period. And it is a most terrible memory that I believe is unforgivable and unforgettable, because Iran had so successfully hushed it up, had lied and lied and lied to the United Nations when it happened, and had pulled the wool over the eyes and fooled a very stupid rapporteur who didn't take it seriously.

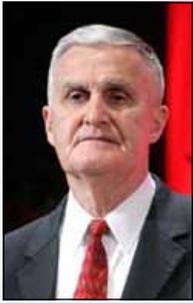
After the ayatollah said he drank the cup of poison and accepted cease fire with Iraq he gave the wicked order, and it was one of the most wicked orders ever given, faithfully implemented by Rafsanjani and by the current Supreme Leader, handed out to the death squads, the judges, Pourmahoudi was one of them, he is now the Minister of

Justice. They sent the death squads into the prisons and they asked a simple question: are you still loyal to the PMOI? And if there was any indication that they were, they put them on a conga line that led to the prison auditorium and they were hung, six at a time, from ropes.

Under the Genocide Convention, the world has a duty never to forget, never to forgive, genocide. In Bangladesh, the 1971 genocide is now being tried and punished. The UN has set up a court in Cambodia to punish the genocide there of 1979. International justice I do not despair of, it grinds slowly but it's caught up with 1971, it's caught up with 1979, I believe that one day it will catch up with the genocide in Iran in 21 Iranian prisons in 1988.



Gen. Shelton: Iranian Resistance is the alternative to 'tyrannical' regime



7 August: General Hugh Shelton US's former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff wrote in Newsweek magazine that the Iranian Resistance is the only viable alternative to the 'tyrannical and unelected theocracy' ruling Iran, and called on the US administration to stop rewarding Iran's 'lying' mullahs with the easing of sanctions and extended deadlines in the nuclear talks.

He wrote: "Since the 1990s, Iran has hoodwinked the international community over its nuclear program time and time again. And the current round of negotiations seems to offer more of the same subterfuge, foot-dragging and recalcitrance. But, rather

than use its economic leverage, the international community has rewarded the mullahs in Tehran with an extended deadline for the current talks (until November 24) and \$2.8 billion in cash that was frozen as part of the sanctions program."

Iran's meddling in Lebanon, Gaza, Syria and Iraq had now left Tehran overstretched and the regime at its weakest point since it came to power in 1979, General Shelton said.

He added: "President Hassan Rouhani has openly bragged on Iranian television that he deceived the international community about Iran's nuclear ambitions and capabilities while he served as the regime's chief negotiator. If past is prologue, we are turning a blind eye to his behavior at our own peril. We have sidelined support for the democratic opposition in Iran

and ignored the regime's atrocious human rights record, all in the name of talks that hold little prospect of success. The reality is that Tehran has been forced to retreat, albeit only one step, due to domestic isolation, international rejection and the weight of economic sanctions. However, the weakness, indecision and offering of concessions by the international community will only encourage the mullahs to resort to deceit, denial and concealment again. Rajavi had a valid point when she said that if the mullahs had the will, six months would have been sufficient to reach a comprehensive agreement on nuclear weapons development. The time for gesturing and posturing by Tehran is over. The mullahs should have forfeited their drive for nuclear weapons years ago. No one should be rewarded for stalling and haggling. Why should the mullahs be? One can only wonder why the Obama administration does not get it."

MODERATION BY ROUHANI IS A MYTH HASSAN ROUHANI, ONE YEAR AFTER

Bertrand Delais, French documentary filmmaker and journalist, the author of "Iran, the fire under ashes" summarised Rouhani's one year record as follows.

One year ago Hassan Rouhani became the President of Iran. Immediately, we wanted to welcome this man and talk extensively about a supposed shift in policy from his predecessor. In reality, he worked to perpetuate the power of the supreme leader and reinforce the regime at all costs.

His mandate has been anything but a departure from the previous policies of the Iranian regime. Rouhani has neither brought the Iranian people to economic prosperity, nor improved the human rights situation. He did not even keep his promise on stability for the regime, despite significant work of trying to attract Westerners.

His presidency has been marked by a record number of executions (at least 800 people, including 16 women have been executed during his first year, a significant increase compared to the same period under his predecessor). Among them was Gholamreza Khosravi from the PMOI. Besides the political opposition, ethnic minorities, including Kurds, Arabs, and Baluchis, and religious minorities such as the Christians, Sunnis and Baha'is have all suffered from the violence of the regime. Outside of the country, Iranian dissidents in Camp Ashraf in Iraq, protected under the Geneva Conventions, were killed on 1 September 2013 by Iraqi military forces at the insistence of the Iranian regime who welcomed the execution of 52 unarmed opponents in the camp.

The pressure on journalists and bloggers has intensified under Rouhani. According to Reporters Without Borders, "With 65 journalists and bloggers imprisoned, Iran is still one of the largest prisons in the world for media professionals." The country

is also the world's biggest prison for female journalists and bloggers. On the economy, there has been no real improvement and the country is bankrupt. Inflation is at 35%. Agriculture is devastated and half of the cities suffer from water shortages. Poverty is so widespread that most people are forced to rely on subsidies equivalent to only 10 Euros per month. Discontent is everywhere with workers whose wages are unpaid for several months. Internationally Iran is involved as a destabilizing factor in every crisis in the region. The arrival of Rouhani did not change the regime's behavior regarding its tireless support of terrorist and extremist groups throughout the Middle East.

Moderation by Rouhani is a myth. During this first year in power, he has proved to be wrapped in the same cloth as other mullahs. More and more analysts are coming to the conclusion that a change in Iran is essential to achieve calm in the region. This is a prerequisite for lasting peace and tranquility in the Middle East, and the crisis-prone Islamic world.



Kermanshah: bus driving away as two men stood on it with ropes around their necks fixed to a bridge



THE RISING VOICE

LONDON SOCIAL GATHERING – 2 AUGUST

Taher Boumedra: I went to Iraq to promote and protect human rights. In this capacity I was representing the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay in Baghdad and I was also the advisor of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations in Baghdad.

In my interaction I got to know the Ashrafis and somehow the feelings of being a father of 3,000 people grew on me, and indeed I was really the father of 3,000 people because whenever they were in need of access to medicine, access to water, electricity, fuel, whatever the camp needed, they would

call me and I would follow it up.

But let me tell you on the day, it was the 9th of June when the ISIS took over Mosul, on the 16th of June, UNAMI, the United Nations Assistance Mission to Iraq, also withdrew. They ran away, like the Iraqi army. They moved from Baghdad, they sent their staff to Jordan, and some of it to the North in Irbil. And they have not visited Camp Liberty for the last 47 days, even though the whole agreement about moving them from Ashraf to Liberty was that United Nations committed to monitor the situation 24/7. Where are they? I was calling my former colleagues, where

are you now, what are you doing in Liberty? They are hiding in Amman and in Irbil, spending your tax money doing nothing, just taking cover there, thinking that ISIS will come and get them.

The United Nations cannot be an instrument for implementing Al-Maliki's policy and I really hope that through our interaction with all concerned, including the media, we make this point, that we are the taxpayers and we don't want our money to be spent by the United Nations to cover up for Al-Maliki's mischief and misbehaviours.



OXFORD SOCIAL EVENING – 21 AUGUST

Bishop John Pritchard of Oxford: I've been involved, I suppose about the last six years. And I'm very pleased, thank you, because this is a thing that transcends nationality and religion and is absolutely crucial to that human dignity, that resistance to tyranny, that desire for freedom that we all have and it's absolutely crucial that we, all of us, get involved. So Mahi got me involved and it was around the time of the first hunger strike, and so actually I've been in Grosvenor Square a couple of times on two separate hunger strikes. Who would have thought to go through it again? But that first time I remember going down and thinking, "These are



heroic people, putting their lives on the line like this", and in the winter – it was just awful conditions to be sleeping out there for day after day, week after week, month after month, it was extraordinary. Fortunately the Archbishop came to us with another hundred bishops because the College of Bishops came to Oxford and I got involved in getting the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, to really take this seriously and make a very substantial statement which went out and did apparently have a kind of roller-ball effect or domino effect and so, one thing after another began to happen, so obviously it was significant...

But still my question at the end of the day is always: why the silence in this country? Why is the media so quiet? Why is the Foreign Office so unwilling to pick up the issue?

The watchword for us is constant vigilance. It is not letting the story go away; keeping on having meetings, statements, interviews, getting things out there, we must be constantly vigilant. If we take our eyes away from what's happening at Liberty, what might happen? So my friends, I stand with you who stand with the people of Camp Liberty, and with all those who value peace and justice as the only future for a fragile world. Thank you.





• NEWS IN BRIEF •

Mine workers strike intensifies as regime arrests more workers

Iran's State Security Forces arrested five more workers of Bafgh Mine Ore on Saturday 23 August, further intensifying the labour protests. The miners were arrested as the strike by thousands of workers entered its fifth consecutive day.

Some 5,000 Iranian mine workers went on strike on Tuesday (19 August) in central province of Yazd demanding the release of two workers who had been arrested by the State Security Forces.

The two workers of Bafgh Iron Ore mine were arrested at the request of the mine's management. The forces had planned to arrest 16 other workers who also had been involved in a 40 day strike in May which ended when the miners were told their demands will be met.



The workers and their families who form half of the population of Bafgh, demanded that the profit from the sale of shares be spent on improving the living conditions in the city. Striking workers had also demanded the resignations of the mine's director and job security guarantees for workers. The strike ended the first time when the governor of the province promised their demands would be met within 2 months. But then the regime started arresting the leading miners while none of the workers demands have been met.

Public flogging "better than rain"!

According to human rights activists in Iran the flogging of an individual accused of taking part in a public fight and disturbing public order and

security was carried out in public in the town of Landeh. The chief of the public court in this town said during the public flogging: The implementation of flogging verdict is better than 40 day and nights of rain in a country!

Two men were flogged in Tehran the same day.



Baha'i cemetery destruction – Shiraz

According to a report by Baha'i International Community, Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) removed human remains from graves in the cemetery in Shiraz to make way for the construction of a sports complex.

In this historic cemetery, established in the 1920s, 950 members of the Baha'i community have been buried. They include ten women who were executed by the mullahs' regime in June 1983.



ISIS was promoted and created by Iran

"Trust Iran only as far as you can throw it" wrote Michael Weiss in a blog post on 23 June 2014. He said American talking heads say that Iran is the key to defeating ISIS. But those in the know say the two "enemies" are actually secret allies. "There has never been any doubt in my mind that elements within Iran's security services have facilitated ISIS,"

Col. Derek Harvey told Foreign Policy, referring to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham, a terrorist network-cum-jihadist army that has now taken over territory in Syria and Iraq that, when combined, is roughly the size of Jordan. Harvey, a retired Army intelligence officer and senior Central Command advisor, was emphatic that any solution for containing the rising threat of ISIS, an al Qaeda breakaway group, must foreclose on the possibility of U.S.-Iranian collusion. His comments were echoed by two other high-ranking U.S. military officials who served extensively in the Iraq theatre in the last decade.

In an article in the Times, 20 August 2014, Col. Richard Kemp, expert on Iran sponsored terrorism, warned David Cameron to "stay clear of double-dealing Iran" and wrote: IS has benefited from funding and weaponry supplied by the Iranian ministry of intelligence and security. There is every likelihood that this support continues today even as Iranian forces aid opposing Shia militia groups in Iraq, and engage in battle against Islamic State itself.

Put Maliki on trial for Camp Ashraf massacre

Prof. Sara Chandler member of the Law Society Council demanded the Iraqi authorities involved in the massacre of Iranian opposition members in Camp Ashraf be put on trial. In a conference at the UN HQ in Geneva she also questioned whether the international community should tolerate the Iraqi authorities providing protection for the remaining refugees now resident at Camp Liberty, near Baghdad airport.





CAMP LIBERTY UNDER SIEGE

We remember that the residents of Ashraf were forced to go to camp Liberty as a Temporary Transit Location (TTL) as the first step in relocating them to safe third countries. The US government and the United Nations gave written assurances to the residents that they will monitor the camp 24/7. The UNHCR completed the refugee determination process after more than two years (so much for TTL) and yet only a few hundred of the internationally recognised refugees have been allowed to leave Iraq (mostly to Tirana). The remaining 2,800 are under constant threat and physical and psychological torture. The recent reports from the camp indicate that:

1. The US and UN monitors have escaped from the vicinity of the camp and have had no presence since the early days of June when ISIS claimed victory in taking the city of Mosul in the North of Iraq.

2. The forces surrounding Camp Liberty, all linked to the office of the Iraqi Prime Minister, have been intensifying their repressive measures and harass the residents on every occasion. Patients have been denied access to medicine and hospital.

3. Basic supplies of food, medicine, water, and fuel have been curtailed and in some cases totally denied. The residents are facing shortage of drinking water due to prevention of entry of cleaning agents for water purification facility.

4. Residents' mobile phones and SIM cards have been confiscated preventing those who go outside the camp to carry out utility services from being in touch with their colleagues. This has also substantially reduced the ability of the residents to be in touch with the outside world to report their grave situation.

5. Providing minimum daily necessities in Camp Liberty relies on the continuous and non-stop flow of



fuel into the camp. Lighting, cooking, storing food stuffs, pumping water into the camp and its purification, drainage of black water, etc, are all relying on power generators that need fuel to run. Shortage of fuel will lead to a serious health crisis for the residents especially under the scorching summer heat in Iraq. Fuel entry to camp has been completely stopped since 12 August.

6. These criminal measures, especially intensifying the medical siege and curtailing daily necessities, are considered physical and psychological torture and constitute 'crimes against humanity' under International Law and those in charge must be investigated and prosecuted. To this day 20 residents have suffered to death due to the criminal medical blockade. Many more are suffering daily the torturous conditions of the concentration camp called 'Liberty'.

ASSESSMENT

By Colonel Wes Martin (Retired), U.S. Army Military Police, Former Antiterrorism/Force Protection OIC for Coalition Forces-Iraq, Former Commander – Camp Ashraf, Iraq:

The government of Iraq is more dependent than ever on the Iranian government and the Qods Force. Meanwhile, the U.S. State Department is trying to hold onto whatever influence they think they have remaining and are not challenging the Iraqi government on anything. This is not for what 4,485 American warriors died and over 30,000 were wounded.

With Nouri al-Maliki in the process of yielding power, it may have already been decided that the "final solution of the MeK problem" will be carried out. Destroying Camp Liberty during the closing days

of al-Maliki's watch benefits the Dawa party, the al-Abadi government, and the Iranian Regime. Maliki already has the blood of tens of thousands of Iraqis and over one hundred MeK residents on his hands. If he ever comes to trial and found guilty, he can only be executed once. 2,900 more deaths will not bother him. Al-Maliki has a back-up plan if Iraq gets too politically hot for him. He can always receive protection in Iran as he did during the reign of Saddam.

*Last March, just a month prior to Iraqi Parliamentary elections, numerous indications and warnings telegraphed signals that al-Maliki's forces were lining up for an attack on Camp Liberty. **International awareness, monitoring, and involvement made him stand down. It is time for the international community to again take a stand against the current life-support blockade of Liberty and stop hostile military action against Camp Liberty while it is still in the planning stage. We are being asked by the residents to help them survive this desperate time. On behalf of the residents, I thank you for any actions you are able to take. They need our voices to be heard for them.***

Wes Martin



Please write to the UN Secretary General (UN Headquarters, New York, USA) to remind him of the UN obligations. After all the UN is using your tax money to implement international law and UN officials should be accountable to the people who provide for their pay cheque.