



IRAN LIBERATION

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European and American dignitaries call on UN, EU and US to intervene to cancel Iraqi deadline for closure of Ashraf, station UN monitoring team in Ashraf



Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran:

The solution is to take this case to the UN Security Council in order to station UN Blue Helmets and a permanent monitoring team at Ashraf to protect the residents.

Robert Torricelli, US Senator (1997 – 2003):

We know where death will come from; we know who will bring it, and we know when. If it happens, it is because our leaders did nothing.

General Hugh Shelton, Former US Joint Chiefs of Staff (1997 – 2001):

U.S. and the E.U. must push the U.N. Secretary General to notify Maliki that he cannot close the camp until UNHCR has completed its work.

Ed Rendell, Chairman of the U.S. Democratic National Committee (1999-2001):

It is time for the American government to step up and lead. It is time for the American government to step up and assume its responsibilities.

John Bruton, Prime Minister of Ireland (1994 – 1997):

It is very important that we remind the Prime Minister of Iraq of the responsibilities that his sovereign country has as a sovereign state.

Romeo Florin Nikoara, Romanian Senator:

The Iraqi government has systematically been hindering possibilities of peaceful solution. It has to cooperate with the UNHCR instead of setting the stage for another deadly attack.



International Conference in Paris

In an international conference held in Paris on Saturday, November 5th at the initiative of the CFID Committee (French Committee for Democracy and Human Rights in Iran), European and American personalities called on the European Union, United States and United Nations to take immediate measures to cancel the Iraqi government's illegal and repressive deadline to close Camp Ashraf by the end of 2011. This call comes after the announcement of US forces' withdrawal from Iraq by President Obama and also Iraqi forces' preparations for an attack against the camp.

By revealing the Iraqi government's obstructions in the peaceful process to resolve the issue of Ashraf, this conference requested the UN Secretary General's urgent intervention and the stationing of a permanent UN monitoring team in Ashraf.

Maryam Rajavi



With the resistance of the Mojahedin in Ashraf and with your support and the efforts of the noble supporters of the Resistance some of whom are here in this conference, today, the world is standing with Ashraf.

The mullahs and their puppets in Iraq are stinging from their isolation and their abhorrence by the world. But they have not desisted from their evil objectives for Ashraf. So we must increase our struggle for the protection and rights of Ashraf residents one hundred fold.

On November 3rd, 42 US Representatives called on the UN Secretary General to establish an office of the UNHCR and OHCHR in Ashraf so they can work in cooperation with UNAMI and the UN monitoring team in a secure setting for the asylum of Ashraf residents.

On November 3rd, the UN Representative in Iraq announced his readiness to use the UN's good offices to resolve this crisis.

On November 2nd, the US House Foreign Relations Committee unanimously adopted an Amendment emphasizing that the Iraqi Government must not close Ashraf until such time that the UNHCR has completed its processing.

On November 1st, Amnesty International issued a formal statement emphatically

Robert Torricelli



If by chance, in a newspaper or a video clip, anyone in the Obama's White House hears our words today, or at 10 Downing Street, or at the Elise Palace, or in Chancellor Merkel's or Prime Minister Berlusconi government, if anyone in any of those governments hears anything about what

we do here today, I ask you this: If on January the 1st, lives are lost, 5, 10, 1000, or 3400, please pay us this respect: do not say "Never Again," because we heard it in Bosnia, we heard it in Rwanda, we heard it in Cambodia, we heard it in Europe in 1945. They are words, they mean nothing.

We created the United Nations for exactly this purpose. The peoples of Americas and Europe have sacrificed to create armed forces and economic and diplomatic power for exactly this purpose. There is no surprise. We know where death will come from; we know who will bring it, and we know when. If it happens, it is because our leaders did nothing. The greatest crime of public office is to have the power to prevent the unacceptable and do nothing.

That is what we face.

General Hugh Shelton



We must use that powerful economic tool again to demand that the U.N. place a full-time monitoring force at Ashraf to protect the citizens until a proper resolution of that disposition can be made.

The U.S. and the E.U. must push the U.N. Secretary General to

notify Maliki that he cannot close the camp until the UNHCR has completed its work on behalf of the Ashraf residents.

President Obama must show the political courage to use the United States' economic tool to demand that the Maliki government, under the United States' commitment, to protect the citizens of Ashraf even in the face of Iranian pressure to the contrary.

Unless Maliki agrees to honor his commitments, his scheduled 12th December visit to the White House should be cancelled.

We will all bear responsibility for the horrible outcome because we lack both the moral and political courage to stand for what is right. We must make sure for the sake of mankind that it does not happen.

Jean-François Legaret



Mayor of Paris 1st District

I would like to testify once again, by our activities, our angers and our solidarity, in response to this unacceptable and shameful deadline that wants to, primarily, cover up the resistance of the 3400 residents of Ashraf. Residents who have, thus far, tolerated

appalling and antihuman torture, have been killed, and may be facing worse catastrophes. That is why we have to stand up.

The city of Ashraf is a symbol of freedom and humanity, it is, in its essence, the antithesis to the fundamentalist regime of Iran.

The solution for Ashraf is to confirm the political refugee status of Ashraf residents. This is to respect the international conventions and laws that thus far Ashraf residents have been deprived of; conventions and laws that have been completely trampled upon at Ashraf. Naturally, the solution is to reject this preposterous deadline and to use the UN's capabilities in protecting their freedom and safety. This is the core of this message.

calling on the Iraqi Government to extend its deadline.

On October 29, 180 European Parliamentarians made the same call.

During September and October every day we could hear calls from various countries, from parliaments and international organizations demanding revocation of the deadline and respect for the right of Ashraf residents.

Nevertheless, the Iraqi Government has closed its ears to the whole world and only listens to the orders issued by Tehran's religious dictatorship.

Precisely for this reason we must be the voice of justice seeking Ashraf residents and all the people of Iran.

On November 3, the Iraqi Premiere's advisor said in a conference with the UN Secretary General's Representative in Iraq that if a quick solution is reached then the Iraqi Government will consider extending the deadline.

Less than two hours after these remarks, the Iraqi Government issued a formal communiqué and once again stressed the closure of Ashraf by the end of the current year. It clearly demonstrated that it is impeding all efforts and solutions, otherwise, if the Iraqi Government wants a solution,

it must remove the 300 loudspeakers that right now are threatening Ashraf residents with death and destruction. Just as it should end the siege of Ashraf, the unjust medical blockade as well as fuel and other logistic blockade and allow the UNHCR to start its work in Ashraf.

All solutions are at hand but the first step is to remove the gun from pointing to the Mojahedin's heads.

By making more and more obstacles, the Iraqi government is blocking any move towards transferring the residents of Ashraf to third countries. These obstructions have acted in three major ways:

First, the Iraqi government is undermining the decision of the UNHCR for determining the status of the residents of Camp Ashraf.

On September 13, the UNHCR officially declared the residents to be asylum-seekers who enjoy basic protections. Since then, the Maliki government has disrupted the UNHCR's process of determining the status of the residents of Ashraf.

This is while obtaining refugees status is a prerequisite to being transferred to third countries.

Second, the Iraqi government is trying to forcibly relocate the residents inside Iraq. As

the caretaker for Interior Ministry admitted on October 27, after the December 31 deadline, the Iraqi government intends to imprison the residents in garrisons in different Iraqi provinces and then hand them over to the regime in Tehran.

Third, the Iraqi government set a deadline to close down Camp Ashraf at the end of this year. This deadline eliminates the time and space needed to find any peaceful solution and in particular eliminates the opportunity to resettle the residents.

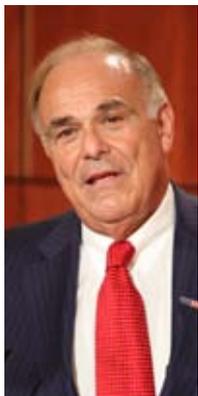
This deadline is the instructions of the mullahs in Tehran and the main subject of the 7-point agreement between the Iranian regime and the Iraqi government. The UNHCR has demanded postponing the deadline and several parliaments and international organizations are saying that this deadline has no legitimacy and must be revoked.

I must emphasize that the Iranian Resistance and the residents of Ashraf are prepared for any option other than being eliminated or being forced into surrender.

In the past few months, the residents of Ashraf have offered seven options,

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Ed Rendell

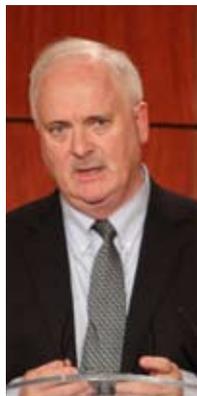


We never made a promise to the people of Benghazi; the people of Benghazi never gave up their arms to the United States military; that happened in Ashraf. 3400 people gave up their arms and agreed to accept disarmament in return for a solemn promise by United States of America that they will be protected. They signed a contract, each and every one of them

signed a contract with the representative of the US government who said we would protect them, so it is much different than Benghazi. We gave our word and our word has to be good for something. I don't care what the niceties are. I don't care what the surrounding circumstances are. When we get people to give up their weapons and they are relying on our protection, we have a moral as well as a legal obligation to be there to do whatever it takes to protect those lives --whatever it takes.

We have a message for our government and I have a message for the Secretary General and all the members of the Security Council. You can't assume that people aren't going to know about this anymore. The whole world is watching. The whole world is watching and the ball is in our court, as we say in America. It is time for the American government to step up and lead. It is time for the American Government to step up and assumes its responsibilities.

John Bruton



it is important that we realize and I sympathize with the view of those who say that the UN Blue Helmets should be introduced straight away. What we should not forget is that Iraq is a sovereign country now. Other nations and United Nations can only act in Iraq in accordance with, and with respect for Iraqi

sovereignty What I think we need to do is to remind the Iraqis and Iraqi government that sovereignty, yes, sovereignty has its rights, but sovereignty has also its responsibilities, and the first responsibility of any sovereign nation is to protect the lives of the people living on its territory.

It is quite clear that the Iraqi government, in the attack it allowed to take place in April of this year, was not fulfilling the duties of a sovereign nation.

Iraq needs to be reminded that it is sovereign and it has sovereign responsibilities as well as sovereign rights and that it has failed to exercise those and we have seen in recent times where a sovereign government of Libya failed to exercise it's sovereign responsibilities to protect its people who were demonstrating peacefully in Benghazi and we know what happened to that regime subsequently under international law.

Romeo Florin Nikoara



The Iraqi government has systematically hindered possibilities of a peaceful solution. It has to cooperate with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees instead of setting the stage for another deadly attack. While the Iraqi government is doing this, the question is why the High Commissioner for Refugees has not taken the necessary measures

to start interviews with Ashraf residents yet. The High Commissioner must not allow the Iraqi government to arbitrarily stop the legal process and enforce the violent attack on the defenseless and unarmed residents of the camp.

New bloodshed in the camp at the end of this year would be a humanitarian catastrophe, a true shame on our humanity and an announced massacre that has been allowed to take place. UN and US government and other countries from the international community would certainly be blamed and held responsible for this. Therefore, let us take the preventive action instead of letting the bloodshed happen and then criticize those responsible for it. Let us prevent it now. We urge the UN and the UN Security Council to compel the Iraqi government to revoke the deadline for closing the camp.



John Pierre Bequet

I am here as the Mayor of Auver sur Oise, a city which is known worldwide, first of all, for its famous painter Vincent Van Gough and then for hosting for many years, the Iranian Resistance for peace and freedom and Mrs. Rajavi, the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran. Mrs. Rajavi is leading this Resistance with synergy and effectiveness and is the source of hope for the people of Iran. Auver Sur Oise is also known for being the sister city of Ashraf and has always stood by the side of Ashraf and will continue to do so.

Our committee of Mayors is happy to be an active supporter of the Iranian people's Resistance and Ashraf. From this podium, our committee calls on the UN Secretary General and the U.S. President to strongly intervene against Nouri Maliki in order for him to cancel his illegitimate and suppressive deadline. We also ask that processing the political refugee status of Ashraf residents be expedited by UNHCR. To succinctly put it, in order to guarantee Ashraf residents' protection, the case must be referred to the UN Security Council so that it would assume that protection by stationing the Blue Helmets inside and around the Camp, today, because tomorrow will be too late.

French mayors express support for Ashraf Call for the removal of deadline



Maryam Rajavi

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including:

- Transfer to European countries;
- Transfer to Iraq's neighbouring countries; and other plans.

I again call on the international community to use its wherewithal to avert a massacre at Ashraf.

When the Iraqi government has blocked all paths to a solution, we must not remain ambivalent. We must not be witness to another Srebrenica. The experience of Nazi relocation must not be repeated.

This is the responsibility of the international community, including France. It is both a moral responsibility and a legal one, based on the principle of the Responsibility to Protect.

France, Britain and several European Union nations took responsibility vis-à-vis the people of Benghazi, because they were facing a massacre. This is precisely the same situation for Ashraf residents.

I must reiterate that the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Iraq does not override the responsibility of the United States to protect the residents of Camp Ashraf.

During Obama's presidency, there have been two massacres at Camp Ashraf. Based on the video clips and definitive evidence, if it were not for the orders of their superiors, U.S.

forces could have averted the catastrophes. As Governor Rendell has said it before, they were told to abandon their responsibilities and thus allowing the massacre to occur.

The US administration handed over the protection of Ashraf to a proxy of the Iranian regime, knowing full well that the Iraqi government was intent on cracking down the residents. The United States also reneged on the agreement it signed with each and every resident of Ashraf to protect them.

In addition, through the unlawful delay in removing the People's Mojahedin from the terrorist list, the U.S. government has provided a pretext for the Iraqi government to launch another attack on the residents.

As General Shelton has said the US has all the means to resolve the issue of Ashraf. Senator Torricelli; you were right to say that if US submit to the demand of the Mullahs to eliminate the residents of Ashraf it will not be the last demand of the mullahs. It will further embolden them.

Therefore, as distinguished American policy makers have declared time and again, American voters and their elected representatives must hold their own government to account. They should ask:

- Why has the U.S. government used taxpayers money to provide the Iraqi army with weapons and Humvees to be used in the massacre of Iranian dissidents?

- Why does the Obama administration seemingly opposes the mullahs but in practice strengthens them by exerting pressure on the Iranian opposition?

As far as the Iranian people are concerned, the U.S. government must be told that it must see itself accountable to the blood that has been unjustly spilled in Camp Ashraf and that it must abide by all its responsibilities to protect the residents of Camp Ashraf.

A solution to the Ashraf crisis is within reach. This solution is a thousand times simpler and easier than the one in Benghazi because it neither needs a military intervention nor colossal expenditure.

The solution is taking this case to the UN Security Council in order to station UN Blue Helmets and a permanent monitoring team at Ashraf to protect them until their resettlement in third countries. This is the precise responsibility of the UN Secretary General, the US and the EU.

We urge the world community to stand with the Iranian people and their Resistance.

We call on them to act to save the lives of thousands of innocent and defenseless men, women and children.

Especially when Arab Spring is blossoming and advancing in the region, confronting the mullahs' dictatorship and supporting the organized resistance of the Iranian people is more than ever necessary.