

## In a letter to Iraq Prime Minister, Haider al-Abadi

### 34 Former Senior US Government Officials and Military Leaders Urge:

# Ending Restrictions on Iranian Dissidents in Camp Liberty & Providing Protection for them

#### Excerpts of letter to Prime Minister al-Abadi

"The rights of these individuals were systematically violated by your predecessor. Acquiescing to Iranian demands and pressure has led to the loss of life for 116 innocent refugees.... We urge you to enforce Iraqi sovereignty and respect international law by providing the full protection of your government to Camp Liberty." As of this writing, 24 Camp Liberty residents have died because they were prevented from getting timely access to needed medical care, and 1,300 are still coping with injuries from past rocket attacks....

The residents' situation is also a matter of grave concern to many members of the U.S. Congress. Protecting these refugees' basic rights and ensuring their safety is a benchmark of Iraq's respect for international law and a measurement of how your government's standards may differ from those of your predecessor.

Iraq's cooperation with the UN independent experts investigating previous lethal attacks on the residents, including the September 1, 2013 massacre and abduction at Camp Ashraf, is another measure of your government's performance being closely watched in Washington.

While we recognize the difficult security challenges confronting Iraq today, the safety and protection of the Camp Liberty residents can and must be assured. We ask that you personally intervene to stop the continued harassment of the residents by individuals in charge of security in the Camp, and the impeding of access to medical care. Additionally, please investigate and ensure a halt to the plundering of residents' properties at Camp Ashraf by persons who claim to be affiliated with the government...

#### We request your personal attention to resolve them:

- For so long as residents remain in Camp Liberty, and until all are relocated outside Iraq, it is vital that the government of Iraq take all necessary measures to assure their safety and security. We ask your authorization for the residents to obtain from Camp Ashraf personal defense equipment such as protective vests and helmets.
- Iraq agreed in 2012 that in moving from Camp Ashraf to Camp Liberty, the residents would be fairly compensated for the valuable assets left behind. Iraqi government officials have no rights of ownership of assets built up over 25 years to support a community of 3,200 people; the government of Iraq must compensate the residents of Camp Ashraf for these losses, and to defray the expenses of relocation to third countries, which to date the detainees of Camp Ashraf have substantially borne themselves.
- We request that you immediately instruct the relevant ministry to connect the residents' facilities at Camp Liberty to the national electricity grid.
- To prevent further loss of life due to lack of timely access to medical care, we urge you to direct that the government of Iraq set up a hospital at Camp Liberty, under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. The residents of Camp Ashraf are prepared to pay the expense of this hospital. The residents already own much of the necessary medical equipment located in Camp Ashraf; like the force protection equipment also remaining there, and thus should be transferred to Liberty.
- We urge you to assign a new team of officials to be responsible for all issues related to Camp Liberty and MEK members. You must immediately remove and bring to justice those responsible for violating Iraq's commitments, denying the residents their basic human rights, and inducing their needless suffering and even death.



To prevent further loss of life due to lack of timely access to medical care, we urge you to direct that the government of Iraq set up a hospital at Camp Liberty, under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. The residents of Camp Ashraf are prepared to pay the expense of this hospital.

For so long as residents remain in Camp Liberty, and until all are relocated outside Iraq, it is vital that the government of Iraq take all necessary measures to assure their safety and security.

#### Partial list of signatories:

Hon. Lincoln P. Bloomfield Jr. - Former Special Envoy and Asst Sec State; Hon. Louis J. Freeh - Former Director FBI; Hon. Michael B. Mukasey - Former US Attorney General; Hon. John Bolton - Former UN Ambassador; Colonel (Ret.) Thomas V. Cantwell, Former US Military Commander for Camp Ashraf; Hon. Glenn Carle - Former Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Transnational Threats, National Intelligence Council; General George Casey - Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff and Commander of Multi-National Forces - Iraq; Hon. Linda Chavez - Former Assistant to the President For Public Liaison, Chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity; Gen. (Ret.) James Conway - Former Commandant U.S. Marine Corps; Hon. Howard Dean - Former VT Governor, DNC Chairman, Presidential Candidate; Lt. Gen. (Ret.) David Deptula - Former Deputy COS For Intel, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, U.S. Air Force; Hon. Rudy Giuliani - Former NYC Mayor, Presidential Candidate; Hon. Porter Goss - Former Director of CIA, Former Chairman of House Intel Committee; Hon. Robert Joseph - Former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security; Hon. Patrick Kennedy - Former Rhode Island Congressman; Hon. Joseph I. Lieberman - Former Connecticut Senator; Colonel (Ret.) Wesley M. Martin - Former US Military Commander for Camp Ashraf, Senior Antiterrorism Officer -Iraq; Brig. Gen. (Ret.) David D. Phillips - Former US Military Commander For Camp Ashraf; Hon. Mitchell B. Reiss - Former Ambassador, Special Envoy to the Northern Ireland Peace Process; Hon. Edward Rendell - Former PA Governor, DNC Chairman; Hon. Bill Richardson - Former NM Governor, Secretary of Energy, UN Ambassador, Presidential Candidate; Hon. Tom Ridge - Former PA Governor, Secretary Homeland Security; Hon. John Sano - Former Deputy Director CIA National Clandestine Service; General (Ret.) Hugh Shelton - Former Chairman of US Joint Chiefs of Staff; Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan - Retired Federal Judge; Hon. Robert Torricelli - Former NJ Senator; Hon. Francis Townsend - Former Homeland Security Advisor to the President; General (Ret.) Charles (Chuck) Wald - Former Deputy Commander U.S. European Command; Hon. Paula J. Dobriansky - Former Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs.