PEOPLE'S MOJAHEDIN OF IRAN

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The following statement was issued today by the office of the People's Mojahedin in Baghdad and is being released for your information.

Press Office of the People's Mojahedin of Iran - Paris May 15, 1996

Mullahs' major terrorist plot against Iranian Resistance leader foiled

In a press conference this morning in Baghdad, a spokesman for the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran uncovered an extensive plot to assassinate Mr. Massoud Rajavi, the leader of the Iranian Resistance. Representatives of news agencies and international television networks attended the conference.

The Mojahedin spokesman displayed the weapons and equipment seized from a terrorist network belonging to the Khomeini regime's Intelligence Ministry (VEVAK). The terrorists dispatched from Iran intended to detonate a very powerful bomb in their attempt on Mr. Rajavi's life, the spokesman revealed. The special weapon for this terrorist operation seized from the hit squad, was a 320mm caliber mortar launcher, 163 cm in length. Each mortar shell contained 25 kilograms of highly explosive material. The Intelligence Ministry had ordered the regime's military industry to manufacture this weapon which was tested before being brought to Iraq. The explosive charge and propellant were equiped with timers.

The weapon was disassembled into three pieces for transfer from the Iranian border to Baghdad. They looked like pieces of water pipe, but when reassembled, the weapon was ready for use.

Members of this terrorist network, employed and organized by the Ministry of Intelligence, received six months of special training in Tehran and Qom to prepare for the operation. The network's leader had eight years of experience in terrorist activities under the Khomeini regime.

Having crossed the border into Iraq, they began preparing for the operation under the supervision of the officers of the Ministry of Intelligence who work at the regime's embassy in Baghdad under the guise of diplomats.

Nader Yar-Ahmadi, the second secretary of the mullahs' embassy, supervised the operation. Besides money, the regime's terrorist-diplomats provided the hit squad with intelligence and other facilities. As they were about to carry out the operation, however, the terrorists were arrested by relevant Iraqi officials and their plot foiled. One of the terrorists was killed while preparing for the operation.

The terrorists had planned to detonate a bomb by remote control in a car parked where the Mojahedin would gather after the explosion of the first bomb. Standard directional explosive charges were planted in the vehicle in such a way that shock waves be directed effectively at the target.

It was also announced in the press conference that another network of the regime's terrorists intended to use a van, mounted with a platform for 107mm rocket launchers, to carry out an attack on the Mojahedin's office building in Baghdad. Before being arrested, the terrorists planned to park the van near the building, and fire the rockets with the use of time-triggered devices. This network was also under the command and control of the diplomats of the regime's embassy in Baghdad.

The above operations, were the 39th and 40th terrorist operations on Iraqi soil against the Mojahedin since 1993 by the mullahs' dictatorship.

Last January, the NCR's Counter-terrorism Committee issued a statement in Paris. The committee revealed that according to the information obtained from within the mullahs' regime, the Supreme National Security Council, headed by Rafsanjani, had approved a top secret plan to attack the leadership of the Iranian Resistance in Iraq, and the residence of the Iranian Resistance's President-elect, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, in France. The plan was to be carried out by the Ministry of Intelligence and the Intelligence Minister Ali Fallahian was provided with extensive resources for its implementation.

It must be noted that the mullahs' Ministry of Intelligence had plotted to launch mortar and rocket attacks on the residence of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi in a Paris suburb. The shipment of arms and ammunition aboard Kolahdooz freighter to a Belgian port on March 14, was part of this terrorist plot, which was foiled by the Belgian police as the weapons were seized. (See the statement of the Secretariat of the National Council of Resistance of Iran on May 13, 1996.)

The People's Mojahedin of Iran condemns the Khomeini regime's unbridled terrorism, particularly its foiled attempt to assassinate the leader of the Iranian Resistance.

The Mojahedin emphatically urge the Government of Iraq to close down the regime's nests of espionage and terrorism in Baghdad and arrest and prosecute the regime's terrorist diplomats.

The Iranian Resistance also calls on the U.N. National Security Council and the Secretary General to immediately examine the voluminous and expanding record of the crimes of the mullahs' regime in different countries and adopt internationally binding punishments against this religious, terrorist dictatorship.

Office of the People's Mojahedin of Iran - Baghdad May 15, 1996

CC:

- Office of the President of Iraq
- Offices of the Vice-premier of Iraq
- The Foreign Minister of Iraq
- The Justice Minister of Iraq
- The Interior Minister of Iraq
- Secretary General of the United Nations
- President and members of the U.N. Security Council
- President of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights
- UNHRC Special Representative on Iran
- President of the International Committee of the Red Cross
- The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees
- General Secretary of Amnesty International