

Periodic Terrorism

The Record of Terrorist Acts by MKO

From 1965 to 2019



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I. Background

MEK¹, MKO², NCR³, NLA⁴ or PMOI⁵ is a **terrorist** organization which was founded in 1965

in Iran. Over the years, they group has hidden behind several names and acronyms as to distract public opinion and deflect away from its activities.

While the group claims itself an ideological blend of Islamic values and socialism, few now dare to deny that in its very essence, the MEK seeks to gain political power through the use of both oppressive and subversive methods. Commonly called a cult by most observers, the MEK systematically abuses its members, most of whom are effectively captives of the organization, according to Human Rights Watch (HRW). Regardless of its delisting by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton back in 2012, many senior Democrats, as well as Republicans, had been persuaded by the MEK's lavish lobbying efforts the group has never ceased terrorizing its members and has continued to conduct



1 Mujahedin-E Khalq

2 Mujahedin Khalq Organization

3 National Council of Resistance

4 National Liberty Army

5 People's Mujahedin Organization of Iran

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assassinations inside Iran.

Ever since its inception, the MEK has favoured armed struggle against whomever it perceived as a threat including its own members in case of disobedience, regardless of the casualties.

In its early days, the group carried out several **terror** attacks against US interests in Iran - including assassinations. Six American counselors were killed by MEK agents (detailed in attachment 1). Such bloody beginnings have only gotten worse over the years; even more so now that the US President Donald Trump's Administration has offered its leadership a veneer of legitimacy by association.

While the RAND research organization, reported some of the MEK **terror** activities, its work is far from being exhaustive (detailed in attachment 2).

This group's anti human activities have not been confined to pre-revolutionary Iran, when one could have argued political necessity against the ruthlessness of the shah. The MEK actually intensified its **terror** activities after Iran's 1979 Revolution (details in attachment 3).

To date the MEK has claimed thousands of Iranian lives, excluding others going through murder and other acts of violence. Iran has listed 17,000 MEK victims so far.

In view of such atrocities, the United States Congress passed an anti-terrorism law: 1996, listing the MEK as a **terror** group. The group was then known as the Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO). The US further included the

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group's other denominations and acronyms such as the National Council of Resistance of Iran. By 1996, the MKO/MEK had 29 affiliates it hid under.

Under 1996 anti-terrorism law, any and all support to the group, financial and otherwise was strictly forbidden.

On July 16, 2010, the US Court of Appeal called on the then-Secretary of Foreign Affairs to rethink the MKO/MEK status, following intense lobbying activities (attachment 4).

The US Secretary of Foreign Affairs was quick to point out that it still had documents proving beyond the shadow of a doubt that the aforementioned group was still very much engaged in **terrorist** activities, and should therefore remain on file as such. Several documents published in different official reports, including an FBI's report on MKO's criminal record attested to the group's violence _ detailed in attachment 5.

Sustained political pressure through lobby groups and a great deal of money eventually led to a review of the MKO/MEK status as a **terror** organization. Daniel Benjamin, former coordinator for counterterrorism at the US State Department confirmed backdoor negotiations in between the group and US officials - detailed in attachment 6.

The US made an official declaration on September 29, 2012 excluding the MKO/MEK



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from its Foreign Terrorist Organizations list.

It is worth noting that on the wake of the 9/11 on the US Trade Center, the United Nations, through 1373 Resolution, added the MEK/MKO to the European Union Terror list. The group's name would be taken out in 2009 following a grand campaign of political 'rehabilitation' through buyouts and promises of political quid pro quo.

Both the EU and the US rationalized their decision by arguing that the group had given up its armed struggle and turned its back on its brutal past. If politicians were quick to rebrand the MEK/MKO, truths would not be so easily discarded. Whatever legitimacy the group may claim today flies in the face of good conscience.

A brutal and loathsome terror group the MEK/MKO operates more like a violent cult than it does a political organization with genuine ambitions. In truth, and in terms of violence, the group has always demonstrated it would be difficult to ever claim that it could ever pose as a pro-democratic group.

II. MKO's recent activities (since 2010)

a) Bombing in Tehran

Right on the back of 2009 street tumults, which were engineered by groups with less than honest intention towards Iran's democratic future, the MKO/MEK decided to resume its attacks within Iran by instructing its sympathisers on how to make explosive devices. Several of its members travelled to Tehran in June 2010 with the intention of carrying out several attacks (attachment 7).

Following MKO members' arrest, Tehran's prosecutor requested judicial cooperation and the issuance of extradition papers by his counterpart in London (attachment 8).

b) Direct participation in Idlib terrorist acts in Syria

Bassam al-Dada (a political adviser to the so-called Free Syrian Army) said in an interview with Anatolia News Agency in late 2012, that this group wanted to include the MKO within his ranks. (attachment 9)

Soon after a report in the French newspaper, Le Figaro confirmed that several MKO/MEK members had died in Syria (attachment 10).



Maryam Rajavi in Saddam Hussain's service

c) Cooperating with Mossad in assassinating Iranian nuclear scientists

Mr. Vincent Cannistraro, former head of the CIA counter terrorism office, revealed that the MKO organization had been contracted by the Mossad (Israel) to target Iranian interests. He said: “The MKO is used as a **terror** arm by Mossad intelligence agency... They are financed and trained by Israel.” (attachment 11)

This news broke out at the time that NBC news reported that MKO agents had aided the Mossad in assassinating several Iranian nuclear scientists (attachment 12).

d) Masoud Rajavi’s threatening message

During a TV message aired on September 18, 2013, the leader of MKO, Masoud Rajavi, threatened Iran with war, murder and assassination. He posted: “We are becoming more and more ready for demolishing wars ... as the Mujahedin organization has proclaimed: murderers and criminals of all sorts, especially clerics and jurists, can be assured that they will pay with their blood just like Lajevardi, Sayad Shirazi and other high ranking members of the clergy.” (see attachment 13 - time 00:33:00 on the video)

Furthermore, in a declaration dated November 2nd, 2014, Rajavi goes on to encourage his followers to assassinate whomever will rise in opposition of his rule - including former members of the group. (attachment 14)

e) The organization's 14-articles declaration

In march 2017, the MEK/MKO published a declaration titled “No Imposter: No Murderer, Our Vote: Overthrow the Regime” emphasizing the necessity for violence and blood-shed. In the last paragraph of its declaration the MEK/MKO provides detailed instructions on how to mobilise a popular army loyal to its ideology. (attachment 15, MKO's website archive)

f) Armed operations during Iran's 2017 presidential election

Concurrent with the twelfth presidential election of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the MKO proved determined to perform several **terrorist** acts as to disrupt the democratic process and prevent people from attending the election. Iran's security apparatus was able to foil three armed operations - Alborz (attachment 16), Kermanshah (attachment 17) and Tehran (attachment 18), leading to the arrest of several MKO/MEK agents.

g) Turning peaceful demonstrations into violent riots

On December 30, 2017 in an Oslo speech, the MEK/MKO's spokesman made the following argument in an attempt to



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incite violence in Iran: “Let our armaments be always roaring on betrayers’ chests. We are men and women of war. War for war. I’ll kill those who killed my sister, those who killed my brother.” (attachment 19, timestamp 00:08:03)

Since Iran grants its people the right to demonstrate, the MEK/MKO has ambitions to turn such right into a weapon against the state, arguing popular revolt when in fact it is staging unrest.

The organization issued 5 following statements, each, calling for further violence against the state. “Whatever it takes” (first message dated December 29, 2017, attachment 20, timestamp 00:11:19). The MEK/MKO leadership also called for its followers to occupy government buildings and media. (message number 2., dated December 30, 2017, attachment 21, timestamp 00:05:20).

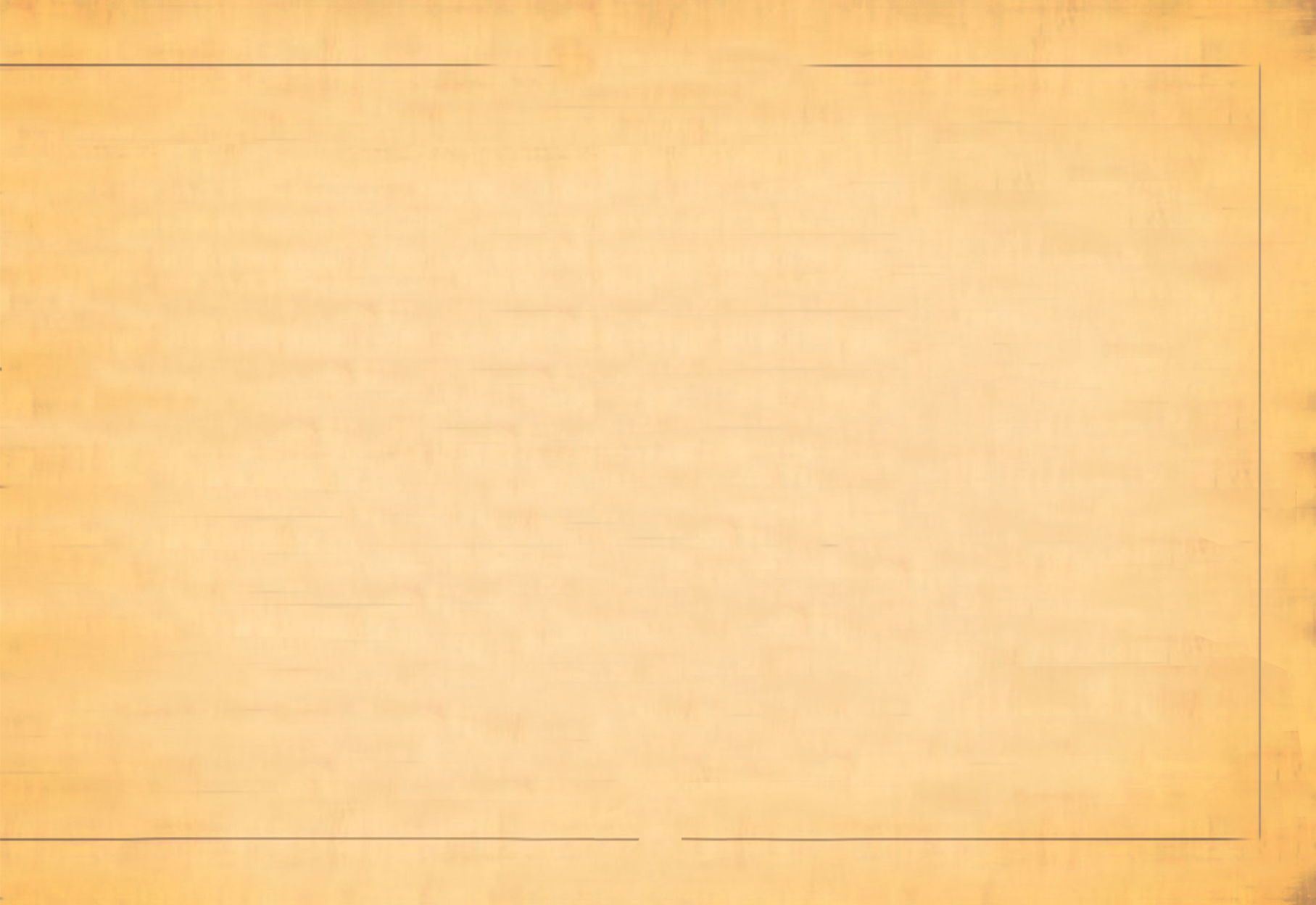
Several MKO/MEK agents enacted such calls by targeting Iran’s sovereignty and sowing chaos; at every turn their efforts were foiled and all members duly arrested and brought to justice. (attachment 22)

Whatever mask the MKO/MEK may wish to hide under, it is impossible today, in view of the many and grave crimes the group committed, both in Iran and abroad, to look upon its leadership and its ideology as legitimate. With a hunger for power and control that equates in barbarism to the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein at the height of his power, the MEK/MKO poses a threat to us all.

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It is worth mentioning that the Albanian Center against Violent Extremism, which recently published a book with the support of two American institutions (including International Equity and Responsibility Commission, CIJA U.S.A and the American Embassy in Tirana, Albania), introduced the MKO as “an offensive and violent organization.”

(attachment 23)



The background is split into two vertical sections. The left section features a dark grey background with thin, vertical white stripes. The right section features a green and tan camouflage pattern. The text is centered across both sections.

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