

U.S. Support for UN Roadmap on Camp Ashraf

Press Statement

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The United States supports the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq's (UNAMI) "Roadmap," which suggests remaining steps for the closure of Camp Ashraf and builds upon the work that has produced the safe relocation of almost two-thirds of the residents from Ashraf to Camp Hurriya. We urge the leadership of Camp Ashraf and the Government of Iraq to cooperate in moving forward with this plan, which can advance our shared objective: the safe departure of the residents from Iraq.

The Government of Iraq has recently taken constructive steps to advance this process. On July 15, it transported from Camp Ashraf to Camp Hurriya a cargo convoy of 300 additional air conditioners, several large water tanks, additional generators, and other goods to improve the residents' quality of life at Camp Hurriya. On July 19, the Iraqi Government transported to Camp Hurriya three specially-equipped vehicles for residents with disabilities. We commend the Government for these positive measures and for its stated commitment to a peaceful resolution of this issue, which is the only acceptable outcome. It is now time for the leaders of the residents at Camp Ashraf to take a similarly constructive step and immediately resume the relocation of residents from Camp Ashraf to Camp Hurriya. While some legitimate humanitarian issues need continued attention, prompt cooperation with UNAMI's suggestions is critical to achieving a peaceful, humane, and secure outcome for the Ashraf residents.

The Mujahedin-e Khalq's (MEK's) cooperation in the closure of Camp Ashraf, the MEK's main paramilitary base, continues to be a key factor in the Department's upcoming determination regarding the MEK's Foreign Terrorist Organization status. The MEK's actions in the days and weeks ahead can show whether the organization remains invested in its violent past of terrorism or is committed to leaving that past behind.

http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/07/195495.htm