

The following is a translation of the "Radio Farda" Persian program which was broadcasted via satellite on July 9, 2007 at 0330 UTC.

TRANSLATION BEGINS HERE

[Female voice]

The songs and the latest news, Radio Farda.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The news from Radio Farda.

The leader of an al-Qaeda group in Iraq gave Iran two month's time to stop its support of the Shiites in Iraq.

The new Foreign Secretary of Great Britain said, "If Iran continues its uranium enrichment program, it will be necessary to intensify sanctions."

Pakistani officials are saying foreign paramilitary forces were also among the armed individuals at the Red Mosque in Islamabad.

Greetings, friends. Welcome to Radio Farda's "Morning Magazine." Today, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of the month of Tir, 1386 of the solar calendar, is the anniversary of the attack on the dormitories of the University of Tehran, and it is the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2007. My name is Jean Khakzad and along with Elaheh Ravanshad, we will be your hosts in today's Radio Farda "Morning Magazine." Ms. Ravanshad, good morning to you.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Good morning to you and our dear listeners, who have been loyal to Radio Farda.

Dear listeners, just like every morning, we have prepared a variety of reports for you, which will be presented during the course of this program.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Valued listeners at home, in cars, on vacation, or wherever in Iran you may be, I hope you have started a pleasant and good day by listening to Radio Farda programs. I also hope you will continue to stay with us.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Before we go any further, let's listen to a summary of the most important and up to date news today with Hamid Fatemi.

[Hamid Fatemi]

Greetings to all our Radio Farda friends and listeners, wishing a pleasant morning for each one of you. I will start the news with a report from Iraq.

The leader of one of the groups affiliated with al-Qaeda in Iraq warned the Islamic Republic of Iran to stop supporting Shiites in Iraq or else to expect a fierce fight.

Abu Omar al-Baghdadi, who calls himself the leader of the Islamic Government of Iraq, released a video tape on Sunday. In this video tape he told Iranians, especially the leaders of Iran, that they had two months to stop their support of the Shiite government in Iraq and stop any interference in Iraq. He stated that if Iran failed to do so, it should expect a fierce fight.

The new Foreign Secretary of Great Britain said, "If the Islamic Republic of Iran were to continue enriching uranium, Great Britain would ask for the ratification of a third resolution to intensify sanctions against Iran." David Miliband, who was making his statements in an interview with Monday's edition of the *Financial Times* newspaper, was not prepared to approve the position taken by former British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, who had ruled out any military action. He stated Iran did not have the right to start a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

Pakistani officials report there were also foreign militants among the armed individuals who were at the besieged Red Mosque in Islamabad. According to Pakistani officials, 250 armed men are the leaders who are responsible for these conflicts. Abdul Rashid Ghazi, the leader of those holed up in this mosque, said he and his followers would prefer suicide over capitulation.

Ever since Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, when the Red Mosque in Islamabad was seized by armed fundamentalists, there have been at least 21 people killed, one of whom was a Pakistani army colonel.

Habibullah Qaderi, the Afghan Counternarcotics Minister, has resigned. He stated his health condition as the reason for his resignation. However, this

resignation took place a few days after it was announced that the size of the poppy crop in Afghanistan would surpass the record set last year. Ninety percent of the world's supply of heroin was produced from opium in Afghanistan last year. According to some international sources, a portion of the 3 billion dollar drug revenue in Afghanistan is being used to arm Taliban forces.

The Israeli Cabinet has agreed to release 250 Palestinian prisoners imprisoned in Israeli jails as a sign of good faith toward Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of the Palestinian Autonomous Territory. Mr. Khakzad.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Thank you Mr. Fatemi for keeping us up to date with the latest news. Should you have any others, we will be waiting for you in the studio.

[Mr. Fatemi]

Yes, certainly.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

We now turn to Radio Farda's "Morning Magazine."

[Ms. Ravanshad]

The British Foreign Secretary states that if the Islamic Republic of Iran were to continue enriching uranium, his country would apply pressure for the ratification of a new resolution for sanctions against Iran. We will have a report by Hamid Fatemi.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The Iranian Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance says the "creeping coup" among the mass media is continuing. We will have a report and discussion with Niusha Boghrati.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Moroccan security forces have been placed on total standby to prevent terrorist activities. We will have a report by Mir-Ali Hosseini.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Along with a variety of other topics in this "Morning Magazine"...

[Ms. Ravanshad]

We will review today's Iranian newspapers.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

You will listen to an economic analysis by Feridoun Khavand.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Finally today, we will visit the busy world of sports with Fariborz Gharib.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Stay with Radio Farda.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

As you heard in the news, the British Foreign Secretary has stated that if Iran were to continue enriching uranium, Great Britain would apply pressure for the ratification of the third resolution for sanctions. You will hear more details in a report by Hamid Fatemi.

[Hamid Fatemi]

David Miliband, the new Foreign Secretary of Great Britain, has stated in an interview which was published today in Monday's edition of the *Financial Times*, that if Iran were to refuse to act upon the demands of the world community regarding suspension of its uranium enrichment program, Great Britain would apply pressure for the ratification of a third resolution for sanctions against Iran.

In this interview, David Miliband was not prepared to approve the position taken by the former Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, which had totally ruled out military actions against Iran and called such an action "inconceivable."

David Miliband stated that "Iran does not have the right to set off a nuclear arms race in the Middle East." He added that the international community wanted to have a diplomatic and non-military solution for this problem. Without approving Jack Straw's position, he said, "I don't think further speculation in this regard would be beneficial."

At that time, David Miliband emphasized that Iran had the absolute right to be a safe and wealthy country. The new British Foreign Secretary further said, "We are ready to work with our partners regarding a third resolution for sanctions. We further believe that it is very, very important for the world community to have one clear and united position regarding Iran's nuclear

issue.”

The Islamic Republic of Iran had welcomed the change of government in Great Britain and Gordon Brown as its new Prime Minister. Mohammed Ali Hussein, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic, stated a week ago that Iran welcomed the election of Gordon Brown as British Prime Minister and hoped that there would be a change in the bilateral relations of the two countries. He said he hoped there would be a change in what he called untrue methods of the past, and that the unfounded accusations would be revised. Until now, Iran has not been ready to accept two mandatory United Nations resolutions regarding suspension of uranium enrichment and refers to its nuclear activities as purely peaceful. This is while Western countries consider the ultimate goal of the Islamic Republic to be the production of a nuclear weapon. It is possible for the UN Security Council to impose additional sanctions against Iran by ratifying a third resolution.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The new British Foreign Secretary states that in the case of a continuation of enrichment of uranium by Iran, it would be necessary to intensify sanctions. Hamid Fatemi was reporting.

Hossein Saffar Harandi, Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, told the ISNA News Agency that there was a “creeping coup” in the mass media in the country, which intends to overthrow the Islamic Republic. These statements were made a few days after *Ham-Mihan* newspaper was banned and ILNA News Agency ceased its operations. Let's hear from my colleague, Niusha Boghrati.

[Niusha Boghrati]

Propaganda against the regime, inflaming public opinion, cultural war, insulting what is sacred, creating the conditions for a soft and non-violent revolution and now a “creeping coup”. These are some of the charges that have been leveled numerous times against independent mass media by the Islamic Republic. In the last few years, such charges have resulted in the ban of any publication whose writings were interpreted to be consistent with one of these statements. In a situation where critical reporters expressed their concerns about a vacuum in the mass media and the creation of a unified mass media, the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance in Iran, who himself was at one point the head of the *Keyhan*

newspaper, has stated that the newspaper had an agenda for a “creeping coup” with the goal of overthrowing the Islamic Republic.

Mashaallah Shamsolvaezin, spokesman for the Association for the Defense of the Freedom of the Press in Iran, has characterized this position by the high ranking officials of the Islamic Republic as old and repetitious.

[Mashaallah Shamsolvaezin]

Whenever governments are unsuccessful in acting upon their plans, no matter what those plans or ideas may be, they try to justify blaming others. In countries such as ours, the closest and the most accessible factor responsible for this, from the government’s point of view, is a free and democratic media. Of course, these statements made by Mr. Saffar Harandi regarding the media are not unfamiliar to me. These statements are totally old and repetitious statements in present times.

[Niusha Boghrati]

The statements made by Mr. Saffar Harandi were made a few days after the *Ham-Mihan* newspaper was banned. This newspaper was considered to have views close to the reformists and was banned after publishing 42 issues. Furthermore, ILNA, the Iranian Labour News Agency, de facto ceased its activities a few days ago following the resignation of its director, Masoud Heydari. The reason for the resignation of Mr. Heydari has been interpreted as the increase of pressures on ILNA News Agency for covering student and worker issues in Iran.

The Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance in Iran pointed his finger at the people in the newspapers, who were busy creating the so-called “creeping coup.” He made his comments without mentioning any specific names.

Arrests, intimidation and legal persecution of Iranian intellectuals and thinkers with the intention of shutting down the free flow of information have been part of the charges that have been repeatedly leveled against the government in Tehran by international human rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Reporters Without Borders.

According to these organizations, this trend has increased following the election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The arrests of individuals with different beliefs and professions such as Ramin Jahanbeglou, a philosopher and

author, Haleh Esfandiari, a researcher, Ali Farahbakhsh, a reporter for economic affairs, Kian Tajbakhsh, a sociologist, and people like them charged with having relations with foreigners and creating the foundations for a soft revolution, have been instances that have created concern for human rights defenders regarding the shutdown of the circle of communication in Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran, denying these charges, states that it is ready to accept criticism.

However, Hossein Saffar Harandi was not the only well-known face in the executive branch who criticized the media in the last few days. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the President of Iran, who joined his cabinet minister on this issue, also criticized the media.

Mohammad Jafar Behdad, the Assistant in charge of communications and publicity at the President's office, stated in an interview with Pars News Agency that the office was coming out of the "shell of silence." He said the office would no longer stay quiet against those attacking the government. Mashaallah Shamsolvaezin from Tehran.

[Mashaallah Shamsolvaezin]

My question to the government is, "Does it not have a sufficient number of newspapers to defend the government's position?" *Iran* newspaper is the official publication for the government. *Keyhan* newspaper, *Hamshahri* newspaper, *Jame-jam* newspaper, and many other national newspapers and television networks are monopolized by the government. We don't have anything called "independent newspapers" in Iran. We have something called semi-independent newspapers in the Iranian media and these are being crushed, threatened, or shut down. As a result, there is a reverse inequality here. The government is so incapable and inefficient that it does not even allow very limited freedom for newspapers. This shows that this government is ineffective. The government's ineffectiveness should be looked for in other places, not among critical and freedom-minded newspapers.

[Niusha Boghrati]

According to Iranian reporters, during the last few months their writings have been banned and have become more limited. Commentaries about Iran's nuclear program and the recent rationing of gasoline are among the subjects that have become some of the forbidden subjects of the Iranian media. According to Iranian reporters, conversations with foreign reporters

have also recently become one of the forbidden subjects. The number of banned publications in Iran since the year 2000 is estimated to be 100. These are publications that have crossed the boundaries and have been shut down.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

The Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance says there is a “creeping coup” among the media in the country. The report that you just heard was by Niusha Boghrati.

[Female announcer]

From the media.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

It is now 7:15. Dear listeners, if you have not had the chance to purchase your favorite newspaper from the newsstand, my colleague Elaheh Ravanshad is ready in the studio to go through today’s newspapers for you. Ms. Ravanshad, it seems like you want to start with *Iran* newspaper, which is related to our previous report by Niusha Boghrati.

[Ms. Ravansha]

That is exactly so. *Iran* newspaper, the official publication for the Iranian government, had an article entitled “Which Freedom? Which Publication?” which referred to newspapers and other media outlets critical of the government as “charlatans.” This article, which did not include the name of the author, accused those publications and their owners opposed to the government as taking advantage of the government’s noble approach. The author continued writing that some of these newspapers have turned into illegal fliers against the government. The governmental newspaper *Iran* has accused those newspapers critical of the government of turning democracy into a tool for cleansing lies and charlatanism. This newspaper has warned the managers of those newspapers critical of the government, to be careful not to wake up when it’s too late to make up for what has happened.

While the government’s publication emphasized the statement, “Freedom of speech yes, freedom for conspiracy never,” it accused opposition newspapers of a conspiracy against the President of the Islamic Republic.

[Host Jean Khakzad]



Okay Ms. Ravanshad, let's review the newspaper *Keyhan*. On behalf of the new deputy head of the Anti-narcotics Headquarters, this newspaper has reported that starting with the end of this year or the beginning of next year, there will be an opium syrup given to those who are addicted to opium. Is that correct Ms. Ravanshad?

[Ms. Ravansha]

Exactly. *Keyhan* newspaper is reporting on behalf of Mohammad Reza Jahani that research and production of opium syrup has been continuing with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health. This syrup will reach the trial production stage in the next one or two months.

According to *Keyhan's* report, there are approximately 800,000 opium addicts in the country. However, treating them with syrup is dependent on the availability of resources.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Ms. Ravanshad, the *Etemad Melli* newspaper is reporting that the Islamic Republic is opposed to a time-out in nuclear negotiations.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

According to a report by this newspaper, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry stated in a news conference that time-out was an old idea, which was mentioned by various countries. However, this idea cannot help resolve Iran's nuclear issue. According to a report by *Etemad Melli*, based on the plan called time-out, Iran would stop the enrichment of uranium and in return the world community would refrain from imposing sanctions. This plan was presented by Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Agency, as well as the British government.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Ms. Ravanshad, as we mentioned in the beginning of the program, today is the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month of Tir, the anniversary of the attack on the dormitory of the University of Tehran. Apparently, *Etemad* newspaper has published an article regarding the same issue.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Without missing anything. On the anniversary of the assault of the security forces on the university dormitory, *Etemad* newspaper has engaged in a conversation with the former head of the university dormitory to analyze the circumstances and the reasons for the disaster on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Tir. According

to this newspaper, Abbas Khodayari, then president of the university dormitory said, "I am looking at the incident on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Tir by itself and as a continuation of all the incidents that took place during those years, which had no intentions other than disrupting and bringing down the reformist government. However, the only difference was that because of the obvious role that the students had in Khatami's victory, a confrontation with the university was more severe than other conflicts."

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The *Jomhuri-Eslami* newspaper is reporting on gasoline smuggling.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

[This newspaper] is reporting that according to a parliament member, a large part of gasoline smuggling is being carried out by governmental agencies. As far as the reason behind rationing of gasoline, this newspaper reports on behalf of Rashid Jalali that the existing documents and pieces of evidence demonstrate that a large portion of gasoline smuggling was being done by some governmental agencies. It is for that same reason that by rationing gasoline, the government is trying to prevent corruption within the system. This member of Parliament also stated that "the smuggling of gasoline is not occurring in 20 or 100 liters, it is happening with a ship holding 2 million liters."

[Host Jean Khakzad]

We finally come to *Tehran* newspaper, which publishes economic news.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

Today's edition of *Tehran*.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Yes.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

[This newspaper] in its first headline is talking about the black market in interest rates. This newspaper also reports the concern that Mohammad Nahavandian, head of the Chamber of Commerce of Iran, has expressed regarding the fiscal policy adopted by the government. It also reports on his behalf that if the policy of reducing bank interest does not coincide with taming inflation and the government's budgetary decisions, then we should expect to have a black market in bank interest rates. According to the

report by today's *Tehran*, this member of the Money and Credit Council has said that bank rates should decrease. This is because a reduction in rates and inflation are directly related to each other. It is such that other than monetary factors, there are fiscal factors affecting the rate of inflation, such as the government budget.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

We will end the segment of Iranian newspapers.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

For today.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Following the unsuccessful terrorist activities in London and Glasgow, Islamic terror has recently threatened non-democratic countries as well. Yesterday, intelligence sources of the Moroccan government have mentioned the possibility of terrorist activities in that country. For that reason, starting Sunday there was an increase in security measures in various cities of Morocco. We will hear more about this matter from my colleague, Mir-Ali Hosseini, in Paris.

[Mir-Ali Hosseini]

Moroccan officials expressed their concern about threats from al-Qaeda terrorists yesterday. Following terrorist activities in the months of March and April of last year in Casablanca, which left 7 people dead and 45 injured, this is the first time that Moroccan officials are openly and clearly expressing their concern about imminent terrorist activities in that country. Officials are also warning people to exercise caution when confronted with any suspicious activity.

Six suicide terrorists who participated in the destructive terrorist activities of last March and April were from poor areas of Morocco and were affiliated with less-experienced Islamic terrorist groups. Based on investigations conducted by Moroccan intelligence services with the assistance of French officials, and the recent threats by Ayman Al Zawahiri, the second in command of al-Qaeda who, in a video message, openly called the Moroccan monarchy a corrupt country, the Moroccan government increased the level of security and preparedness to its highest level. Additionally, following terrorist activities in Casablanca, Moroccan security officials arrested an individual by the name of Saad Hussein, the military

leader of the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group. He confessed that the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group considered itself an affiliate of al-Qaeda.

Guillaume Dasquié, an expert in al-Qaeda and chief editor of the internet site "Geopolitique.com," states:

[Comments in French]

The Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group was created and organized in the camps of Afghanistan during the years 2000-2001 with the efforts of Ayman Al Zawahiri, the second in command of al-Qaeda. He adds.

[Comments in French]

At that time, members of this group in Afghanistan received some orders such as a map, based on which they were supposed to come to Morocco and by expanding the number of cells, they were to make special preparations to start a jihad in Morocco. In Morocco, there are a significant number of European visitors, especially from France. While the population is in danger of being victims of terrorist acts, tourists are also exposed to this risk. Therefore the French Foreign Ministry has asked those French citizens who travel to Morocco to take maximum precautions.

Mir-Ali Hosseini from Paris for Radio Farda.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Well Ms. Ravanshad, we now come to our economic report and discussion with Dr. Feridoun Khavand.

[Ms. Ravanshad]

According to independent experts, senior officials of the Islamic Republic repeat that Iran has turned into one of the most important countries attracting foreign capital in the world. The title of today's economic discussion is "Foreign Investment in Iran: From dream to reality."

[Male speaker]

Today's Economy.

In a seminar analyzing the common investments of Iranian and foreign

companies in construction projects, which was conducted yesterday in Tehran, a number of senior officials from the Islamic Republic presented new data regarding the entry of foreign investment into Iran. If this data is true, this country would be among some of the most successful countries in attracting foreign capital. According to Dr. Jamali, the head of Investments and Technical and Economic Assistance for the Islamic Republic, in the year 1385 of the solar calendar, 80 percent of all approved foreign investment plans have come to fruition.

Dr. Jamali added in the same seminar that in the first three months of the current solar year alone, 25 foreign investment plans have been approved, with an aggregate amount of 3.5 billion dollars. Many independent Iranian experts call this data an exaggeration, possibly due to two main reasons. The first reason is that the initial agreements with the foreign investors and their authorized signature for investment on behalf of the Iranian government don't necessarily turn into real investments. The Islamic Republic's statistical agencies often consider the figures written in agreements or rough drafts about investments as their acceptable criteria, not the investment that truly comes to Iran.

The second reason for this exaggeration is misunderstanding of the meaning of foreign investment by statistical agencies and senior officials of the Islamic Republic.

For example, activities that are called [unintelligible] exchange, which is, in fact, a form of obtaining loans from foreign companies, is being considered foreign investment by Iranian officials. If we were only to calculate direct foreign investment in Iran, which is the most useful and the most requested form of foreign investment, the amount of annual entries into Iran does not exceed 500 million dollars. Based on the 20-year forecast done by the Islamic Republic, Iran is supposed to attract 1.3 trillion dollars in foreign investments between the years 1384 and 1404 of the solar calendar. This amount translates into an annual amount of 65 billion dollars.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Sports fans, now it is your turn. My colleague Fariborz Gharib is prepared to give you the news about sports.

[World of Sports]

[Fariborz Gharib]

On Sunday evening, Roger Federer, the number one ranked tennis player from Switzerland was able to defeat the number two seed, Spaniard Rafael Nadal, in a classic finals match, becoming the champion of the Wimbledon tournament in England for the fifth consecutive time. In this game, which was held in London and lasted 3 hours and 45 minutes, Federer defeated his young and hard-working opponent, Nadal, by a score of 3-2. With this victory, Roger Federer attained the record of Swedish player Bjorn Borg, who won the Wimbledon tournament five times between the years 1976 and 1980. Federer has raised the Wimbledon golden cup over his head since 2003. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> Grand Slam title for Federer. In addition to the cup, Roger Federer also received one million Euros as prize money for winning the Wimbledon tournament. Rafael Nadal received 500,000 Euros as the number two player.

During the Asian Cup, the Vietnamese national soccer team created a surprise during its first game of the second group of these games by defeating the team from the Emirates. Vietnam, which is the host of the second group of the Asian Cup games, was able to defeat the Emirates National Team on Sunday evening with a score of 2-0 in the national stadium in the city of Hanoi. Prior to this match, in the city of Bangkok the national teams of Australia and Oman played for a 1-1 tie.

According to the game schedule, in the other game of the second group, the national teams of Japan and Qatar will play against each other on Monday. Iran's national team, which is in the third group of this cup, will play its first game against Uzbekistan's national team on Wednesday. Other third-group games, which are hosted by Malaysia in the city of Kuala Lumpur, in addition to Iran and Uzbekistan, include the host team Malaysia versus China.

Roger Federer, Swiss tennis player and the number one seed in this sport was able to defeat Spaniard Rafael Nadal on Sunday night in a classic match...

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