

The following is a translation of the "Radio Farda" Persian program, which was broadcast via satellite on August 17, 2007 0330 UTC.

TRANSLATION BEGINS HERE

[Female announcer]

The best songs and latest news, Radio Farda.

[Male announcer]

The news of Radio Farda.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Casualties from the Peruvian earthquake have reached more than 500.

The number of deaths in the current flood in southern Asia has increased to more than 2,600.

The US ambassador in Baghdad warned against the departure of US troops from Iraq.

Greetings friends and audience, and welcome to the morning edition of Radio Farda this Friday.

Today is Friday the 6th of Mordad, 1386 and the 17th of August, 2007. This is Jean Khakzad along with my colleagues Elaheh Ravanshad and Baktash Khamsapur. We are your hosts in this morning edition.

Ms. Elaheh Ravanshad, good morning.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

Good morning to you and our dear audience of Radio Farda this Friday. Today, for you, the dear audience of Radio Farda, we have prepared various reports in this program.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

First, from the beautiful coasts of the Caspian Sea to the beaches of the endless Persian Gulf, to any spot of Iran in which you are located and hear the voice of Radio Farda, we wish you a good and a pleasant day with warm and hopeful hearts. Stay with us.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

But before anything, the headlines so far with Baktash Khamsapur.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Mr. Khamsapur good morning to you, too.

[Baktash Khamsapur]

Good morning to you, too, Mr. Khakzad, and also you, Ms. Elaheh Ravanshad. Also, good morning dear audience.

Casualties from Wednesday morning's earthquake in Peru have reached 510, and there is a possibility that this number will increase. According to Margareta Wahlstrom, assistant secretary general for United Nations Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations deputy emergency relief coordinator, more than 1,500 people have been injured in this earthquake. The two waves of this eight-point earthquake lasted more than 20 seconds each and were accompanied by nine aftershocks.

Casualties from the flood in southern Asia have reached more than 2,600 people. Due to the monsoon season and melting snow, floods occurred in late July in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. Floods in southern Asia have caused close to one billion dollars in damages and have caused the spread of disease.

Ryan Crocker, US ambassador in Baghdad, warned against the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq. He said on Thursday that the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq will allow Iran to influence this country, and he acknowledged this scenario is against US interest in the region. Mr. Crocker also accused Iran of weakening the Iraqi government in order to control the Iraqi regime.

The longest nature painting in the world was finished being drawn Thursday afternoon by Bam's people. According to IRNA, this painting started at 5:30 A.M. yesterday morning, which was same the time the fatal earthquake occurred in 1382, and took more than eleven hours. According to IRNA news agency, this painting was five kilometers long and was drawn using 30,000 cans of paint and 10,000 brushes. The previous record of the longest painting in the world belonged to the School of Art in Romania and was 3,141 meters long.

The Iranian National Beach Soccer team beat Bahrain in last year's championship in the Asian qualifiers to secure its place for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Brazil. The team will play against Japan in the semi-final game of the Asian qualifying games Friday night. If they win, they will directly advance to the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup, which will take place from the 11th to the 20th of this coming Aban in Brazil.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

With thanks to my colleague Mr. Khamsapur for the latest news. Now you will hear this early morning magazine.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization completed its annual summit in Kyrgyzstan today. A report by Hamid Fatemi.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

The Islamic Republic of Iran called America's possible measure of adding the Revolutionary Guards' name to the list of terrorist organizations propaganda. A report by Farin Asemi.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Newspapers of the free world declare potential US measures against the Revolutionary Guards increasing pressure from the United States on the Islamic Republic. A report by Fariba Movadat and Mir Ali Hosseini.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

The results of the first day of Iran's soccer league and the latest from the world of sports with Habib Roshanzadeh.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

And a memorial to the late singer Elaheh, an old artist who passed away.

All of this in this program. Stay with Radio Farda.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) completed its annual summit of state leaders today by releasing a statement in the Kyrgyzstan capital, Bishkek, on Thursday. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was introduced in this summit as an observer. In the closing statements it was emphasized that it is up to the SCO's own

countries to maintain the security of this region. Hamid Fatemi has a report in this regard.

[Hamid Fatemi]

In the closing summit of the SCO summit in eastern China today, leaders from Russia, China, four Central Asian countries, and Iran, warned that maintaining the security of this region is up to its own countries. This warning is in the threshold of the mutual maneuvers by China and Russia which is supposed to take place tomorrow, Friday.

According to the Associated Press, the leaders of Russia, China and Iran said Thursday that Central Asia should be left alone to manage its stability and security, an apparent warning to the United States to avoid interfering in the strategic, resource-rich region. This statement claims stability and security in Central Asia are best ensured primarily through efforts taken by the nations of the region through existing regional associations. Today presidents from Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan visited the joint exercise of Russia and China in Chelyabinsk in the Ural Mountains of Russia.

Iran, Pakistan, India, and Mongolia hold observer status at SCO meetings. For the second consecutive year Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was representing Iran. The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran says a US missile-defense plan in Europe is a threat to countries across much of Asia and Iran.

According to the Russian news agency, Iran's president said in Bishkek that a missile defense system around the world is threatening not only to one country, but to the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the entire Eurasian continent. The government of Russia also says that deploying this missile shield threatens the security of Russia. The United States has plans to deploy anti-missile shields in the Czech Republic and Poland. Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia, in his speech in Bishkek without naming the US said that a unilateral approach for solving the world's problems is hopeless and asked for a "multipolar" world order. Moscow has always accused the US of unilateral policies in the world.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization was established 11 years ago under the banner of combating terrorism and fostering regional collaboration. In recent years, by including Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan and

India at this summit as observers, the SCO has had a tendency to oppose the expansion of US power in Central Asian countries.

[Female announcer]

You are listening to the morning edition of Radio Farda.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

The Islamic Republic of Iran on Thursday called the possible measure of the US to add the Revolutionary Guards of Iran to the list of terrorist organizations propaganda. Farin Asemi reports.

[Farin Asemi]

A foreign ministry source told the official IRNA news agency that this kind of news is propaganda and psychological pressure that US statesmen use against the Islamic Republic of Iran and it is professionally worthless. At the same time, Gholamhossein Gheiparvar, a senior commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guard in the Fars province, said in an interview with IRNA that when the Islamic Republic's enemies call this regime a terrorist, it is an honor for Iran and a sign of anger from the enemy.

According to the Agence France-Presse, the United States accuses the Revolutionary Guards of creating instability in Iraq by providing bombs and weapons to Iraqi militias to kill American soldiers. The US seeks to cut off the financial flow of these forces.

The Revolutionary Guards of the Islamic Republic is also the center of political decision-making in Iran. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the president of the Islamic Republic, is a former officer of this force and has promoted Revolutionary Guards officers to ministers in his cabinet.

Yahya Rahim Safavi, commander of the Revolutionary Guards, warned on Wednesday that these forces have the entire length and width of the Persian Gulf under scrutiny. In an interview with the outbound news network Jaam-e Jam, he said that Iran is armed with ground-to-sea missiles which have a range the length and width of the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea.

In reaction to blacklisting the Revolutionary Guards to the list of terrorist organizations, Yadollah Javani, the head of the political office of the Revolutionary Guards, told Jaam-e Jam newspaper that not only are the

Revolutionary Guards going to remain reactionary, but will also seek to develop and progress in this active area.

According to the Agence France-Press, the intent of the US government to possibly add the Revolutionary Guards to the terrorist organization list officially has not been confirmed. At the same time, the AP reports that the US is intending to send a message to countries that trade with Iran that America is serious in trying to isolate Iran because of its nuclear programs.

Iran has been on the US's list of supporters of terrorism for about two decades. Currently, about 42 organizations are on the list of terrorist groups supporting al-Qaeda maintained by the US State Department. Washington believes the Quds Force of the Islamic Republic Revolutionary Guards is responsible for providing weapons to Shiite militias in Iraq and the Taliban in Afghanistan. However, Iran rejects accusations of supporting the clashes in Iraq, and believes that the US forces' presence in Iraq is the greatest obstacle for stability and peace in Iraq.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

Farin Asemi was reporting. English-speaking publications also have had different articles regarding the possible decision of the US. Fariba Movadat.

[Fariba Movadat]

US newspaper the New York Times says that the US decision of blacklisting the Revolutionary Guards to the list of terrorist organizations is a sign that the Bush administration's patience with the UN Security Council, Russia and China is running out, and they are about to take a more aggressive stance. But the New York Times writes according to former experts and analysts of Iranian politics, the goal of America is to disturb the stability of Iran's government.

On the other hand, the Guardian newspaper, published in London, says that the US decision shows the superiority of the extremist front in America, led by Vice President Dick Cheney, over the moderates such as the Secretaries of State and Defense. However, Condoleezza Rice officially has not announced the position of the government regarding blacklisting the Revolutionary Guards. The Guardian says the reason is probably to allow enough time for the UN to pose a tougher position against Iran.

In the Washington Times, Matthew Levitt, a former deputy assistant of the US Department of the Treasury, said in an article earlier this year that targeting the Revolutionary Guards will be a hostile measure against the Islamic Republic and friendly toward the Iranian people. Because the Revolutionary Guards have broad economic projects, the US and the international community can put pressure on them easily.

The Times, published in London, says the decision of moving against the Revolutionary Guards is a retaliatory measure against the activities of the Quds Force, the military branch of the Revolutionary Guards. The US accused the Quds Force of training and arming extremists in Iraq, Lebanon and Afghanistan, allegations that Iran always denies. However, the Times says that the increasing tension between Iran and America can damage new cooperation such as the Iraq talks.

The Wall Street Journal also writes in this regard that measures against the Revolutionary Guards would not have significant influence, unless China, Japan, Germany, France and Italy support isolating this force and its financial units.

The Jerusalem Post also says it does not seem that the Revolutionary Guards have significant assets in the US, but blacklisting them on the list of terrorist organizations may persuade European and Asian entities to cut off their ties with them.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]
Fariba Movadat was reporting.

French newspapers also studied the possible decision of the US. Mir Ali Hosseini reports from Paris.

[Mir Ali Hosseini]
Figaro, in an article titled "The Revolutionary Guards Under the Fire of the US," writes that the US, by blacklisting the Revolutionary Guards as a terrorist organization, will target the most powerful and most opaque organization of the Islamic Republic. According to officials in Washington, such a decision will affect the economic and financial activities of the Revolutionary Guards, which is accused of supporting Shiite militias in Iraq. If this decision becomes enforceable, the Revolutionary Guards will join the

other 42 organizations and groups on the blacklist, including al-Qaeda and Hamas.

According to Figaro, on the very first day of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini created the Revolutionary Guards as an ideological army to become a power parallel to the traditional army of Iran under his authority. Parallel to that, the special Quds Force, who are dependent on the Revolutionary Guards, were responsible for training Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Badr Shiite group in Iraq. Today, the Revolutionary Guards is enjoying a unique intelligence service which uses the Basij's fast paced intelligence to monitor demonstrations. Figaro writes according to Mahan Abedin, scholar at the Center for Terrorism Studies in London, after the end of the Iran-Iraq war in 1988, a large number of Revolutionary Guards commanders entered the vital industrial sections. Today they own weapons factories. The Iranian missile programs are in their hands, and Iran's nuclear program in a large part is under their surveillance.

A large number of high-ranking officials of the regime also are former Revolutionary Guards officers, specifically Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the conservative president of Islamic Republic of Iran, and a number of his ministers and members of parliament. Based on Mahan Abedin's opinion, the project of blacklisting the Revolutionary Guards on the list of terrorist groups has been proposed by Washington hawks to increase pressure on Tehran.

Figaro says according to Mustafa al-Labbad, the Egyptian political analyst and Iran expert, the US decision also has another goal, which is to force its partners in the UN Security Council to ratify a third resolution against the Islamic Republic. According to Mr. al-Labbad, the decision of naming the Revolutionary Guards a terrorist organization is a tool to put European institutions who have signed contracts with the Revolutionary Guards under pressure.

Paris, Mir Ali Hosseini, Radio Farda.

[Female announcer]

You are listening to the early morning program of Radio Farda.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Elaheh, the famous artist of Iran, passed away. She was a singer of memorable songs in the “Colorful Flowers” radio program. Certainly, it was before the Islamic Revolution. A memoir of the late Elaheh with my colleague Firouzeh Khatibi.

[Music clip]

[Firouzeh Khatibi]

In the book *Memories of Singers* by Parviz Khatibi, it is written,

“We were going to Shemiran with a friend, when I turned on the radio and heard a warm voice with a deep and seductive tone. I asked who that person is. My friend said she is a new singer called Elaheh who has become famous in a very short time.”

In this book it is recalled that Elaheh’s real name is Bahar Gholamhoseini and that she started her work at a very young age. It also mentions her cooperation with Dariush Rafiei and Majid Vafadar and finally her participation in the “Colorful Flowers” radio program. This program, with assistance from Davoud Pirnia, elevated Elaheh to the peak of her fame.

Jamshid Sheibani, resident composer in Los Angeles, used to live in Hollywood as an art reporter for an Iranian magazine. He produced two songs for Elaheh in the early 1950s: “Laugh” and “Jamileh yekeh-Savar.”

[Jamshid Sheibani]

Karim Pargol wrote me a letter saying that he has found this girl by the name of Bahar who is good singer, and that he wants me to give her a song. I told him that I have a very good song that I will send him, and I have written the lyrics which we can gradually give her to sing. I sent it to him immediately with a traveler going to Iran, and he changed the name to “Laugh-Laugh.” She recorded the song with Majid Vafadar’s orchestra, and Elaheh sang.

[Music clip]

[Firouzeh Khatibi]

You knew Elaheh very closely. What kind of a person was she? Tell us more about her personality and why for all the years that she was in Los Angeles, she never had a program, and why she did not stay here.

[Jamshid Sheibani]

She was a very humble lady. She was very kind. She used to help people a lot.

[Firouzeh Khatibi]

Mr. Sheibani, what were the characteristics of Elaheh's voice? For you as a composer, what was the unique element of her voice that told you she was going to be successful in her career?

[Jamshid Sheibani]

I think an artist's voice, personality, gestures and conduct has to be very refreshing. I mean when she goes on the scene, or when she appears on TV, she should be able to attract people. She has to be very strong and tough. Elaheh's voice was seductive and warm- soft like a musical instrument. It was like playing music. Her voice by itself had all these characteristics and was very appealing.

[Firouzeh Khatibi]

Mr. Sheibani, is it right that Elaheh's success peaked when she started the "Colorful Flowers" program and her work with Mr. Pirnia?

[Jamshid Sheibani]

Davoud Pirnia found her, and Touraj Negahban really helped her. Also, Tajvidi helped her a lot. But you know, when someone's voice is excellent, everybody will go after her. After auditioning for Mr. Pirnia, he loved it and immediately ordered a large orchestra to compose new songs for her, and her best songs are with Homayoun Khorram.

[Music Clip]

[Host Jean Khakzad]

May she rest in peace.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

May she rest in peace. Now let us turn to listen to the world of literature with Faraj Sarkhouhi.

[Interlude]

[Faraj Sarkouhi]

Last week, one of the most important literary works of Dostoyevsky, *The Devils*, translated by Soroush Habibi, a very talented Iranian interpreter, was published. This novel was first published in the 1940s under the name of *The Possessed*. *The Possessed* came to the market with interpretation from Khobrehzadeh and Jalal Ale Ahmad and was published in Farsi.

Although the old title of the book had more harmony with the substance of the book, experts acknowledge Soroush Habibi's translation, considering the book content and new developments of the Farsi language during recent decades. Dostoyevsky, due to his financial need, published all of his stories as *feuilleton*. In *feuilleton*, draught, attraction and public acceptance play an important role, but Dostoyevsky's genius mind promoted public acceptance so high that psychologists commemorate him as the discoverer of the depth of the mind and believe that his literary work is unprecedented from a philosophical standpoint.

[Music]

The book *The Soviet Socialist Republic of Iran, 1920-1921: Birth of the Trauma* by Dr. Cosroe Chaqueri, which was published last week, is valuable research regarding the role and tendencies towards socialism, especially the Jangali Movement. The Jangali Movement, with the leadership of Mirza Kouchak Khan, rose after the Constitutional Revolution in the northern part of Iran and was suppressed with a tragic ending. *The Birth of Trauma* has been translated to Farsi by Behzad Khakrizan.

Dr. Cosroe Chaqueri, the author of this book, is an active scholar and famous historian of Iran, and before this work he published various other literary works regarding the leftist history of Iran after the Constitutional Revolution. Efforts of this scholar include publishing a book of eight letters of Mostafa Shahian to militias devoted to the Tudeh Party of Iran last month. Shahian was one of the innovative and reflective individuals of armed fighting and left-wing Iran in 40s and 50s. He tried to evaluate the situation with a perspective far from the usual clichés of those days.

The Farsi translation of the novel *Coin Makers* by André Gide which was unobtainable in recent decades was re-published last week. André Gide was born in 1869 in Paris and by writing novels such as *Le traité du Narcisse*, *Les caves du Vatican*, *Caractères*, and *Coin Makers*, and

Retouches à mon retour de l'U created a new style in French and world literature, and won the Nobel Peace Prize in Literature in 1947.

André Gide was a sensitive author and for a fight that he called “injustice,” joined the Communist Party of France. However, after a trip to Russia, he realized the bitter truth about totalitarian despotism and resigned from the Communist Party of France by writing the book *Return from Russia*. André Gide died in 1951. Hassan Honarmandi, the famous poet of 40s and 50s who was a predominant writer in Farsi and French, spent decades of his creative life devoted to Gide’s work and translated this piece.

[Music]

[Host Jean Khakzad]

Yesterday was the very first day of the Soccer Championship League of Iran. My colleague, Habib Roshanzadeh, will be with you with the latest on the World of Sport.

[Clip of World of Sport]

[Habib Roshanzadeh]

The Soccer Championship League of Iranian clubs started its new season with two games in Tehran and Abadan. Altogether in the two games, 11 goals were scored. In Abadan, Persepolis played the Oil Industry team and won the game in a three to two result. This game took place in front of more than 20,000 people in the Takhti Stadium of Abadan. The first half ended two to one for Persepolis. This game was stopped twice for seconds because something was thrown toward the assistant referee. The match between Paykan Tehran and Bargh Shiraz ended four to two for Paykan.

The remaining seven games in the Soccer Championship League of Iranian clubs will continue today, Friday. In Rasht, Pegah Gilan will host Sepahan from Esfahan and in Esfahan, Zob Ahan will host Malavan Anzali. Also, Saba Battery in Mashhad will play against Aboumoslem, and Mes Kerman will play against Pass.

Hafezieh Stadium will be the host of Fajr Shirza with Shirin Faraz Kermanshah. In Tehran, Rah Ahan with Saipa and Tehran Esteghlal play against Ahvaz Esteghlal.

Javad Nekounam, the Iranian midfielder of Spanish team Osasuna, will be unable to play for the next six months. According to Reuters news agency this 26-year-old Iranian player of Osasuna snapped a ligament in his right knee, and he has to sustain treatment for the next six months. This injury occurred to Nekounam only four minutes after coming on as a substitute against Villarreal in a friendly game.

[Music]

In the World University Games Olympiad in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, Iran received its final medal in Judo. Mostafa Delirian, the 60 kilogram Judoka of the Iran team won the bronze medal after a victory over his Algerian opponent . He was the last Iranian student to go to the ring in the World University Games. Iran participates in racing, gymnastics, both men and women's Taekwondo, and Judo in this round of the World University Games. Iran received nine medals, and tied with Turkey for 17th place. Russia with 78 medals, China with 76 and Ukraine with 58 medals have the one two three ranking.

In Germany tonight the second week of the Soccer Championship League of the country Bundesliga is continuing with a game in Karlsruhe, and Vahid Hashemian's team, Hanover, will play against Karlsruhe. Hashemian's presence in this game tonight is not final. The Iranian national player of Hanover played last week against Hamburg in the second half.

[Host Jean Khakzad]

With the warm voice of Iran's sport man, Habib Roshanzadeh, at 7:29:45 we will wind up the early morning edition of Radio Farda.

[Elaheh Ravanshad]

Our *rendez-vous* with you will begin in 30 minutes with the detailed news. We wish you a happy morning and we hope you stay with us until next program.

Goodbye.

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