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EXPOSING THE REALPOLITIK OF THE KHAWĀRIJ AND RAWĀFID!

Shaykh Abū 'Abdullāh 'Umar bin 'AbdulHameed al-Batūsh  
(*hafidhahullāh*)

# ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AL-QĀ'IDAH AND IRĀN<sup>1</sup>

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This is a reality which has no doubt and it is a very dangerous issue which clarifies to us that this organisation believes in the Yahūdī principle of:

الغاية تبرر الوسيلة

“the ends justify the means”

The leaders of this organisation (al-Qā'idah) are fully prepared to ally with Shayāteen in order to achieve their Khārijī and Qutbī aims and destructive plots within the Muslim lands and all over the world in fact. As a result, due to this filthy logic there is a documented and direct relationship between this organisation (al-Qā'idah) and the Rāfidī (Safawī)<sup>2</sup> state of Irān. Firstly, there is

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<sup>1</sup> Abū 'Abdullāh Umar bin 'AbdulHameed al-Batūsh, *Kashf ul-Astār 'ammā fi Tandheem al-Qā'ida min Afkār wa'l-Akhtār* [Uncovering the Ideas and Dangers Within al-Qaida] (Ammān, Jordan: Dār ul-Athariyyah, 1430 AH/2009 CE, intros. Shaykh 'AbdulMuhsin bin Nāsir Āl 'Ubaykān and Shaykh 'Ali Hasan al-Halabī al-Atharī), pp.383-400.

Even though this topic may seem surprising to some English audiences it has actually been discussed much among Arabs and within their media wherein many al-Qā'idah members within Iraq have actually openly admitted that they obtain help from Irān!

<sup>2</sup> **Translator's note:** The *Safawiyyah* (Safavid Dynasty) were the ruling Persian Empire which transformed Persia into an official Shi'a state in the Sixteenth century CE, they ruled from 1500-1722 CE. Their ethnic origins were mainly from Ardabil in the Turkic Azerbaijan region of North-western Irān yet they also included mixed origins of Circassian, Georgian, Greek and Kurdish. The Safawiyyah were originally Sufis (the Safaviyeh order)

much in the way of certified information and documentation on the existence of this relationship and secondly on the continuing increased links between the two. This ill-fated relationship between al-Qā'idah and Irān is based on absolute co-operation between the two wherein al-Qā'idah operatives are assisted to seek refuge in Irān, hide there in safety and begin training at camps within Irān. Al-Qā'idah were also provided with a range of weapons and ammunition. This is just some of what the Rāfidī state has supplied to al-Qā'idah and its Takfīrī-Qutbī operatives. As for what al-Qā'idah has provided and served up for the enemies of the companions, and especially Irān, then this is much indeed. For example:

1. Al-Qā'idah killed a number of good people from Ahl us-Sunnah in al-'Irāq and especially Salafī students of knowledge who understood the dangers of the Iranian Safawīs who were present in al-'Irāq after the fall of Baghdād. These were people who fought against the Rāfidī-Safawī *'aqeedah* which is based on *takefeer* of the noble Companions (*radi Allāhu 'anhum*) and *takefeer* of the Muslims of Ahl us-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah.
2. Performing terrorist operations among the Shi'a ranks, the common people among them who have been deceived by them, and among Sunni ranks in order to cause sectarian troubles and divide the Irāqīs, all in order to cause chaos, mayhem and civil war which increases American involvement in Irāq and causes America to be distant from any possible military strikes against Irān for its nuclear program.
3. Performing assassinations on Iranian opposition voices with direct guidance from Irān.
4. Arab embassies in Baghdād closed due to kidnapping and massacres of its staff at the hands of al-Qā'idah operatives. All employees were killed whether they be diplomats, guards or low-paid workers. However, when al-Qā'idah got hold of the Iranian Consulate they handed it straight over to Iran.

These are some aspects of al-Qaida serving the Rāfidī-Safawī state which has enmity to the noble Companions (*ridwānullābi alayhim ajma'een*). And that which will become apparent in the future will be bigger and more dangerous. Unto you now respected reader are some indications of the secret relationship between al-Qā'idah and the Rāfidī-Safawī state of Irān as affirmed by much in the way of documentation and certified information:<sup>3</sup>

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from the Shāfi'ī madhhab and it was Khwaja Ali (d. 833AH/1429 CE) who became Rāfidī. Yet it was Shāh Ismā'il the First of the Safawīyah (1502-1524 CE) who made it compulsory for the Sunni population to become Shi'a and Sunni 'Ulama were executed or exiled in the Sunni purge. Iran became a feudal theocracy: the Shah was held to be the divinely ordained head of state and religion. In the following centuries, this religious stance cemented both Iran's internal cohesion and national feelings and provoked attacks by its Sunni neighbors.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to the following books:

- ❖ Roland Jacquard, *In the Name of Osama bin Laden*, pp.52-53, 68, 196-197 and 199

1. There exists a secret al-Qā'idah training base within Irān in Khurasān Province<sup>4</sup> in Torbat-e-Heydariyeh<sup>5</sup> which is on the Afghan border.
2. 1500 fighters trained at the aforementioned base in a range of military techniques.
3. Iranian intelligence supervised the training of the fighters and co-operated with al-Qā'idah at various stages.
4. Senior Iranian officials and al-Qā'idah operatives supervised the training of the aforementioned fighters secretly, such as: Muhsin Ridā'i (Iranian Deputy head of Analysis for Iranian interests)<sup>6</sup>; 'Ali Shamkhānī (Iranian Minister of Defence); Husayn Zamānī (Iranian administrative official) and Dr Ahmad Jalālī Qomi (internal security representative in al-Qā'idah).
5. The presence of 18 al-Qā'idah training camps within Irān.
6. The handing over by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard (IRGC) of SAM-7 missiles<sup>7</sup> and other assorted explosives to al-Qā'idah.<sup>8</sup>
7. Irān gave to al-Qā'idah 1000 Strela VSA missiles, along with large quantities of high-explosive devices, to be used within al-'Irāq such as Basra, al-'Amārah, Mosul (Mawsil) and Hadeethah.
8. A number of al-Qā'idah operatives met up with representatives of Hezbollah in Irān.

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❖ Jean-Charles Brisard and Damien Martinez, *Zarqawi: The New Face of al-Qaeda*, pp.111-112, 125-134, 161-166, 197-199, 207-208

❖ Fu'ad Husayn, *az-Zarqāwī: al-Jaleel ath-Thānī li'l-Qā'idah*, pp.187-192

❖ Abdul-Bari Atwān, *The Secret History of Al-Qa'ida*, pp.228-229, 239-240

❖ Also see the Online version of the journal *Majallat al-'Asr* which published a compilation of documentation (17 February 2008 CE) which indicates the existence of a documented relationship between al-Qā'idah and Irān.

<sup>4</sup> **Translator's note:** [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle\\_east\\_and\\_asia/iran\\_polo1.pdf](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/iran_polo1.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> **Translator's note:** there are also tombs here which are worshipped other than Allāh, yet this evil is not commanded against by the al-Qā'idah henchmen.

<sup>6</sup> **Translator's note:** he was also a former Revolutionary Guard Commander.

<sup>7</sup> **Translator's note:** 'Surface-to-Air' missiles.

<sup>8</sup> **Translator's note:** On May 13 2006 the Irāqī daily newspaper *az-Zamān*, which is published in London and Baghdād, quoted credible Irāqī sources as revealing that the IRGC had given al-Qaeda in Iraq, Strela-type SAM-7 surface-to-air missiles, modern explosives, and a large number of personnel arms including Kalashnikovs and BKC machineguns. The report said that representatives of al-Zarqawi's group met in Beirut with members of the Iran-backed Lebanese group Hezbollah and through them established channels with Tehran. Three close aides to al-Zarqawi travelled to Iran via a security checkpoint in the Irāqī border province of al-Amārah from where they met with Iranian officials, the report added.

9. One of the leaders of al-Qā'idah in al-'Irāq visited Irān via the Iranian border region of al-'Amārah.
10. The presence of many important al-Qā'idah operatives within Irān such as: Sa'd bin Lādin, one of the sons of Usāmah bin Lādin. He was placed into custody by the Iranian military; Sayful 'Adl al-Misrī (the previous military head of al-Qā'idah and the third in line within the organisation) and Sulaymān Abu'l-Ghayth (the previous al-Qā'idah spokesman).
11. Sa'd bin Lādin and Sayf ul 'Adl al-Misrī travelled from Irān to Syria in order to re-form al-Qā'idah and new al-Qā'idah cells and train Lebanese refugees within Syria.<sup>9</sup>
12. There is an al-Qā'idah training camp (called Shaheed Miftāh) within Irān in Kermanshah Province which is the location of the northern military complex for the Iranian intelligence apparatus. At this camp terrorists were trained such as those of Hezbollah and al-Qā'idah operatives. Furthermore, al-Qā'idah operatives were also in hiding within these camps.
13. There is a special training camp for al-Qā'idah operatives within Irān between Tehrān and Qum near the cemetery of Bishti Zahrah in a green and mountainous region. This camp was previously used as a secret prison for Irāqī prisoners of the Irān-Irāq war. Most of those training at this camp are Moroccan, Libyan, Afghani, Algerian and Pakistani. Herein, these operatives undertake explosives training and gain practice in various weaponry, all under the auspices of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard. On the route to this camp are check-points supervised by Iranian Security Services however in order to disguise what actually takes place at this camp signs saying "Battery Centre" are scattered on route in order to make it appear that batteries are being produced and manufactured in the area.
14. In September 1999 CE Turkish intelligence services arrested a cadre of al-Qā'idah operatives who aimed to infiltrate Turkey in order to launch attacks coinciding with the Security Council conference on European co-operation and took place in Istanbul on November 18. It became apparent to the Turkish intelligence services that terrorist operatives had trained and formed in Irān in Tabrīz.
15. One of the wanted al-Qā'idah leaders, Usāmah bin Lādin, went to Tehrān to search for ways to support the Albanians of Kosovo! Ayatollah (!! ) Rohani, the Supreme Leader of

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<sup>9</sup> **Translator's note:** Refer to this article by Adam Zagorin and Joe Klein entitled '9/11 Hijackers Passed Through Iran' in *Time magazine* dated Friday July 16 2004: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,664967,00.html>

the Iranian Security Council at the time, confirmed during a discussion with the members of the council that it was important for Kosovo to incline towards al-Qā'idah in order to revive Islamic activities in Europe! This is a concept which is also shared by the leader of al-Qā'idah Usāmāh bin Lādīn and those around him who are part of the Afghān Tālibān movement. In February 2000 al-Qā'idah and the Tālibān, along with some wanted Iranians, began their secret commissions at the Iranian embassy in Dubai. The man who was responsible for the process of these connections for Mullā 'Umar, the leader of the Afghān Tālibān movement, was Mulay Ahmad Mutawakkil. These commissions had the initial aim of restoring shared land between Irān and the Tālibān after relations had been impaired between the two countries after the fall of Kābul (to the Tālibān) in 1996 CE and the Iranian Consulate in Mazar-e-Shareef was ransacked on August 8 1998 CE and the Tālibān killed nine Iranian diplomats from Tehran. These secret commissions (between Irān and the Tālibān) also aimed to spread Islām and security within their shared borders and prevent an alliance between Shāh Mas'ood and Iranian Security Services. However, due to the influence and incitement of Usāmāh bin Lādīn, these secret meetings led to an agreement between al-Qā'idah and the Tālibān, from one angle, and between Irān, from another angle, that fighting against the entire West should be launched. In this way then, the leader of al-Qā'idah was able to convince the Tālibān that the Iranians are the only ones who represent the real Muslims in the world and that he has a shared enemy with them: the Americans.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> **Translator's note:** For more on this refer to an article by Hamid Mir entitled '*Iran and the Al-Qaeda Connection*', dated July 16 2004 for the Online Indian newspaper *Rediff* (of Mumbai), from the article:

I visited Iraq twice after the fall of Saddam Hussein and in April this year I was sure that pro-Iran Shia militants and Al Qaeda fighters were collaborating against the US in Iraq. Al Qaeda is using Iraq as a new base for organising attacks against the US and its allies after September 11. US Secretary of State Colin Powell had repeatedly claimed in the UN Security Council that Baghdad had weapons of mass destruction, but one year after the invasion of Iraq it was disclosed that actually it was the Iranians who were making WMDs, including nuclear bombs and missiles, since the last 18 years, not Saddam Hussein. The Americans have now started Saddam Hussein's trial, but, surprisingly, allegations about the possession of WMDs are missing from the charge sheet. Bush and Powell were embarrassed internationally because the Central Intelligence Agency was concentrating on Iraq instead of Iran. Interestingly, the CIA was getting disinformation about Hussein's WMDs from Iranian intelligence through a double agent, Ahmad Chalabi of the Iraqi National Congress. Chalabi was an indirect contact of Iran with the US. The Iranians used the US indirectly against their old enemy Saddam Hussein and now they are using Al Qaeda against the US in Iraq. They are playing a classical double game, not only in Iraq but also in Afghanistan.

**THREE** years ago Ahmed Shah Masood, chief of the Northern Alliance, was working both for Iran and the US in Afghanistan. He was killed by Al Qaeda two days before September 11. After Masood's death,

Mohammad Qasim Fahim and Dr Abdullah Abdullah were the two main contacts of the US in the Northern Alliance. They were receiving open support from the US and covert support from Iran.

When the Taliban and Al Qaeda vacated Kabul in November 2001 and the Northern Alliance took control of the big cities like Kabul and Kandahar, the Iranians tried their best to install the Persian-speaking Tajik leader Burhanuddin Rabbani as the new interim president of Afghanistan. But the US preferred Pashtun loyalist Hamid Karzai. After the fall of the Taliban, the Iranians were supporting Fahim and Dr Abdullah in Kabul, Karim Khalili in Bamiyan, and Ismail Khan in Herat. They also gave refuge to hundreds of Al Qaeda fighters who fled Afghanistan. Very few people know that Al Qaeda was actually in contact with the Iranians even before September 11. It was March 1997 that I first interviewed Osama bin Laden in eastern Afghanistan for *Daily Pakistan*. In that interview bin Laden proposed an alliance between the Taliban and Iran because of their anti-US stance. That proposal was a surprise to me because the Taliban were against Iran at the time and that was the main reason for the US State Department's overt and Pakistan's covert support to them.

**After the interview I talked to some other Al Qaeda operatives present in the hideout. One of them told me, “We want a broad-based alliance against the US and that's why we are in touch with the Iranians since many years.” Further investigation revealed that the main contact of Al Qaeda with Iran was Dr Ayman Al-Zawahiri. He and his comrades in the Jamāt Islamia had organised the assassination of Egypt's President Anwar Sadat in 1981 with the help of Iranian intelligence. When Osama bin Laden moved to Sudan in 1994, al-Zawahiri re-established his old contacts with Iranian intelligence. Many Iranian officials and leaders of Hizbullah met the Al Qaeda leadership in Khartoum. Although the Hizbullah is a Shia outfit and Al Qaeda is a Sunni group, they decided to unite against the United States.**

In coming years, Al Qaeda adopted Hizbullah's methods against US targets. Hizbullah organised the suicide bombing at the US embassy in Beirut with trucks (April 18, 1983), which killed 61 people. Al Qaeda repeated the same kind of suicide bombing at the US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in August 1998, which killed more than 200 people. It is also worth mentioning that Osama bin Laden came back to Afghanistan in May 1996. He landed in a special plane with some of his close comrades at Jalalabad airport and was received by Maulvi Yunus Khalis, Haji Deen Muhammad, and some others. Another plane of the Ariana Air Lines also landed at Jalalabad airport the next day with his family and big cargo. Afghanistan's official airline was helping bin Laden on Burhanuddin Rabbani's orders. He was the prime minister in Kabul when bin Laden was allowed to enter Afghanistan as a special guest.

**THE TALIBAN** only controlled some provinces in southern Afghanistan in those days. Pakistan was supporting the Taliban because Rabbani was close to Iran and India; the Pakistani embassy in Kabul was attacked by a mob that was guided by Northern Alliance commanders.

When the Taliban invaded Jalalabad and Kabul in September 1996, bin Laden switched sides and assured the Taliban of his cooperation. American and Pakistani intelligence agencies were aware of bin Laden's presence in Jalalabad, but they never objected because they were hoping that the experienced Arab fighters of Al Qaeda would help the Taliban push the Northern Alliance into Iran. **Those were the days when bin Laden tried his best to bridge the gap between the Taliban and Iran, but the Taliban refused to heed his proposal.** The Taliban depended on Pakistani help and the Pakistani establishment was helping them because their opponent, the Northern Alliance, was close to Iran. Then Pakistani interior minister Major General Naseerullah Khan Babar was responsible for providing logistics and monetary support to the Taliban. **He admits that ‘we were supporting the Taliban to save**

16. The 9/11 Commission, based on interviews and interrogations with numerous members of al-Qā'idah such as Tawfeeq 'Attāsh,<sup>11</sup> discovered that there was co-operation between al-Qā'idah and Irān. Such as for example, Irān facilitating members of al-Qā'idah to travel through Irān when going to and from Afghānistān. Border security officers were given strict instructions not to stamp passports but rather to stamp visas onto an attached form so as not to leave any trace of transit via Irān.<sup>12</sup>
17. The 9/11 Commission discovered strong proof indicating that Irān facilitated members of al-Qā'idah to travel to and from Afghānistān and that eight to ten of those involved in the 9/11 attacks passed through Irān during 2000-2001.<sup>13</sup>
18. At the beginning of 2002, several weeks after the military attacks on Afghānistān, America indicated that Irān had facilitated the presence of al-Qā'idah operatives and Tālibān to remain on their land. The spokesman of the Iranian Foreign Minister Hameed Ridā Āsghay, confirmed that Irān had "handed over all foreign prisoners belonging to al-Qā'idah back to their homelands." However, in early September 2003 CE Jordanian authorities officially announced that Irān refused to respond on the matter of handing over Abū Mus'ab az-Zarqāwī who was temporarily held by the authorities in Tehrān in 2002 CE when he fled to Kurdistān in al-'Irāq. Based on the argument that was given by Irān, az-Zarqāwī was holding a Syrian passport and so was not possible to send him to Jordan and to make it easy for him to travel he used to possess a number of false

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**Afghanistan from Iranian interference because the Iranians were playing a double game with us. They were claiming that we are your Muslim brothers, but actually they were encouraging people who were involved in anti-Pakistan activities inside Afghanistan.' When the Taliban refused to cooperate with Iran, Osama bin Laden decided to help them quietly because Dr al-Zawahiri was not with him. He had been detained in Dagestan by the Russian authorities. The Russians were unaware of his real identity because he had travelled to the area on a fake Sudanese passport. Zawahiri was Al Qaeda's main link with Iran, and the link was missing.**

See: <http://www.rediff.com/news/2004/jul/16spec1.htm>

<sup>11</sup> **Translator's note:** He is a Yemeni member of al-Qā'idah who was arrested by the Yemeni authorities and then released, he is thought to be behind the bombing of the USS Cole on October 12 2000 and linked to 9/11. He used a variety of aliases and pseudonyms.

<sup>12</sup> **Translator's note:** Refer to this news report dated July 2 2004 by Brian Naylor of NPR and Jessica Stern, Lecturer in Public Policy at *Harvard University* and author of *Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill* (New York: Harper Collins, 2003): <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=3615705>

<sup>13</sup> **Translator's note:** Refer to this article by Adam Zagorin and Joe Klein entitled '9/11 Hijackers Passed Through Iran' in *Time magazine* dated Friday July 16 2004: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,664967,00.html>

passports, he also had for example a British passport, a Lebanese passport, an Iranian passport and a Yemeni passport.

19. After az-Zarqāwī was injured during the American attacks on Afghānistān he found a safe-haven in the Iranian city of Mashhad wherein he received medical care, this was around January 5 2002 CE. Az-Zarqāwī hid in Irān up until the end of 2002 and herein he co-ordinated the withdrawal of al-Qā'idah members from Irān to Kurdistān, and then after that he travelled to Tehrān and then to Zahedān in southern Irān. During all this time he was under Iranian protection. I can add to this that based on the admittance of the Jordanian Ahmad Mahmūd Sālīh ar-Rīyātī who was held by allied forces in March 2003. Jordanian intelligence was able to certify that all of the leaders of az-Zarqāwī's network, linked to al-Qā'idah, were in Irān in 2003.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> **Translator's note:** Turki as-Saheil also reported in *ash-Sharq al-Awsat* newspaper on February 5 2009 entitled '*Saudi Arabia: Al-Qaeda Using Iran as Base of Operations*':

Riyadh, Asharq Al-Awsat -**The latest list of 85 wanted militants issued by the Saudi ministry of interior has renewed the issue of an al-Qaeda link with Iran. According to information received by Asharq Al-Awsat from an informed official source; thirty-five Saudi nationals who are currently on the most wanted list were last seen in Iran, or in the Iranian-Afghan-Pakistani triangle. According to the information obtained by Asharq Al-Awsat, al-Qaeda elements in Iran are plotting an attack on Saudi or Jordanian interests, and that a number of these individuals intend on returning to their home countries to personally participate in these terrorist operations, while others intend on joining the al Qaeda cell in Yemen to participate in terrorist activities there.**

The Saudi interior ministry on Tuesday released a list of 85 wanted militants, all but two of them Saudis. One of the men on the list, Abdullah al-Qarawi, is a Saudi who has been operating from Iran for three years, the ministry claimed. Al-Qarawi, 35, is believed to have been behind recent terror attacks in Saudi Arabia and leads Al-Qaeda's operations in the Persian Gulf and Iran, as well as recruiting jihadist fighters for Afghanistan. It is believed al-Qawari has more than 100 Saudis working for him in Iran, where they move about freely. **His current alias is Najim, and is believed to be an expert in the use of sophisticated weapons and allegedly provides jihadists with cash and false IDs and has created a base in Iran that supports Al-Qaeda cells in Iraq and Lebanon. Al-Qarawi has purportedly been in Iran since 2006 and is reported to have helped several Saudi Al-Qaeda fugitives flee to Iraq and Lebanon where they have trained to carry out attacks. The source also revealed that the Saudis who joined al-Qaeda in Iran had to pass through a number of different countries to arrive there, including Bahrain, the UAE, Qatar and Syria.**

Moreover, a wanted individual by the name of Abdullah al-Abaed, who is wanted by Saudi authorities for the murder of Major General Nasser al-Othman, a senior Saudi police officer, is now currently in Iran after using forged travel documents to get there. **Al-Abaed is known for issuing Fatwas that condone his terrorist activities, as well as labeling others "infidels", and is active in obtaining financial support to the network's elements.**

Another wanted suspect on the list is Mohamed Abul-Khair, who is known to have over eleven aliases. Abul-Khair is also known for being one of Osama Bin Laden's bodyguards and is also the terror chief's

20. In 2003, when America accused Irān of helping a number of al-Qā'idah leaders, not to mention other assistance which was given by Irān to them, Irān had to admit that it had held many al-Qā'idah operatives in July 2003 and that some of them were sent back to their countries. The Iranian Minister of Information, 'Ali Yūnus, stated: **"We held a large number of important members of Usāmah bin Lādin's network."**<sup>15</sup> The

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son-in-law. Abul-Khair who had established ties with 9/11 hijacker Ramzi Bin al-Shaiba, is currently believed to be in the Iranian-Afghan-Pakistani triangle. On Monday, the Kingdom issued a list of 85 wanted militants based overseas and called on them to turn themselves in to authorities and "return to a normal life." Since 2003, Saudi Arabia has issued a number of lists of dozens of wanted militants, most of whom have been killed in shootouts with security forces or arrested. In October, Saudi Arabia said it had indicted 991 suspected al Qaeda militants for carrying out 30 attacks since 2003.

See: <http://www.asharq-e.com/news.asp?section=1&id=15626>

Another article entitled 'Saudi daily editor: Al-Qaeda members enter Iraq from Iran' by NCRI on Monday 1 June 2009 states:

The editor-in-chief of the Saudi *al-Watan daily* said in an interview with the *al-Arabiya* TV channel on Saturday that **al-Qaeda members enter Iraq "specifically from Iran."** He also listed Iran's ally, **Syria, as a point of entry for the members.** Jamal Khashoggi was speaking to the network about Saudi-Iraqi relations. **He quoted Amir Nayef bin Abdelaziz, the Saudi Interior Minister and Second Deputy to the Prime Minister, as saying that Iraqis know full well where al-Qaeda fundamentalists enter Iraq from. They do not go to Iraq from Saudi Arabia. They come from countries which are perceived as Iraqi allies. He added, "They specifically come from Iran. Iraqis also know that they enter Iraq from Iran and its ally, Syria. If Iran and Syria want to prevent their entry they can. But, they do not want to prevent their entry. They have vested interests in their entry and activities in Iraq. This arc starts from Afghanistan, continues over Iran and Syria and crosses Iraq."**

<sup>15</sup> **Translator's note:** Faye Bowers in an article for the *Christian Science Monitor* entitled 'Iran holds Al-Qaeda's top leaders', dated 28 July 2003, also documented this:

**The Tehran government is holding several top-level Al Qaeda operatives that, experts say, could lead to the biggest breakthrough in curtailing the organization since the fall of Afghanistan. Though the Iranians haven't mentioned any names, intelligence officials and press reports indicate they've captured Sād bin Laden, Osama bin Laden's son, who has assumed a leadership role; Sulaiman Abu Ghaith, the Al Qaeda spokesman; and Saif al-Adel, the latest No. 3 who is believed to be in charge of military operations.**

**Even more significant, according to one Western intelligence official, Tehran is also holding Al Qaeda's No. 2, Ayman al-Zawahiri, who is known as an Islamic fundamentalist intellectual and eloquent speaker for the organization. While some US intelligence sources have expressed doubt that Iran really has Dr. Zawahiri, the European official says Tehran "absolutely" has him.**

If so, his capture, along with that of the other top members, would deal a major blow to the terrorist network. "Zawahiri would be an incredible blow," says Stanley Bedlington, a former senior analyst in the CIA's counterterrorism center. "All four of them would be a

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tremendous blow.... Al Qaeda will continue to rebuild, but it will take a lot of time to get new leadership with those sorts of skills and experience.”

Whether Iran will hand them over is another question. The senior Western intelligence official says a European country is involved in negotiating some kind of turnover now. It would be difficult for Iran to directly turn them over to the US for the obvious political considerations: It is an Islamic country named as both a sponsor of terrorism and a member of the "axis of evil" by the US.

Moreover, the US accuses Tehran of trying to develop nuclear weapons and is pressuring it to stop. Conversely, Iran would like the US to stop supporting Mujahideen e-Khalq, a group that opposes the Iranian regime and operates freely in the US.

“I suspect that some Iranians would argue that keeping some of these high-ranking Al Qaeda members incarcerated is a good bargaining chip,” says Ali Ansari, a Middle East historian at Durham University in England. Publicly, both sides are being predictably circumspect at the moment. Iran has only said it is holding a “large number of small- and big-time” Al Qaeda members.

See: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2003/0728/p01s02-wome.html>

<sup>16</sup> **Translator’s note:** refer to this article by Habib Trabelsi entitled ‘Saudi Jihadist Accuses Iran of Sponsoring al-Qaeda’, dated March 30 2009 in ‘Saudi wave’ Online news and translated from Arabic into English by Naima Bouteldja, the article includes (it has been abridged):

**Repentant Aoufi says Al-Qaeda’s new strategy consists of hitting key places in Saudi Arabia, retreating to Yemen.**

By Habib Trabelsi - PARIS

A repentant member of Al-Qaeda, the Saudi Arabian Mohammed Al-Aoufi, claimed last Friday that Yemen has become a rear camp for terrorist operations in neighbouring countries, in particular Saudi Arabia, accusing Iran of sponsoring “Al-Qaeda in the Arabian peninsula.”

**A revelation: Iran financial sponsor of Al-Qaeda!**

But the greatest “revelation” of Aoufi, alias “Abu al-Hareth”, is his charge against “two states” of financing the terrorist network “through members of their intelligence agencies and individuals who seek to harm Saudi Arabia”. The names of the two states have been deliberately eliminated from the “confessions” and kept out of the newspapers. However, according to him, supporters of the leader of the Zaidi rebellion, operating in Sāda (in northern Yemen), had proposed to members of Al-Qaeda “millions of dollars that will be provided by these two states”. Yet, Sanā authorities have accused both Iran and Libya of supporting Shiite rebels who reject the Yemeni regime and call for the restoration of the Imamate Zaydite, overthrown in a State coup by Republican forces in 1962. The conflicts against the insurgents have led to thousands of deaths since 2004. On the other hand, the Saudi press has multiplied its criticisms against Iran, accusing it of interfering in Arabic affairs, including those of Saudi Arabia, in order to exercise its hegemony. Iran is also accused by the press of wanting to provide refuge to the 85 alleged members of Al-Qaeda, suspected by Riyadh of preparing terrorist attacks against Saudi Arabia from abroad.

**Iran, Al-Qaeda: the same struggle?**

21. Many sources have mentioned the presence in Irān of Sayf ul-'Adl al-Misrī and Sa'd bin Lādin who was in custody in an Iranian military base. However, the Iranian government denied this vociferously however it admitted at the same time that it was impossible for them to completely police the 1900 kilometres of its borders which it shares with Pakistān and Afghānistān. It also acknowledged that al-Qā'idah elements were able to enter Irān. However, the reality is that this is an evasion from the Iranian government, as the top leaders of al-Qā'idah and many of their operatives were able to enter Irān with their knowledge and authorisation. These operatives and leaders also received protection, medical care and military training, along with other manifestations of co-operation, co-ordination and support for this destructive *takfīrī* organisation.

Here it is worth indicating to the fact that within al-Qā'idah's strategy is to broaden the conflict between America and bring other new groups into the conflict in sync with reviving and strengthening the *takfīrī* terrorist trend of thought which destabilises the Arab Muslim states via

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On Saturday, Khaled bin Mansour Al-Dariss, the head of the Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz Research Chair for Intellectual Security Studies at King Saud University, was more explicit. Commenting in Al Hayat on Aoufi's "confessions", Khaled scotched any uncertainty about the intentions of "this country that has declared expansionist ambitions and is seeking to equip itself with nuclear forces that will inevitably serve to exercise its hegemony over the region." **Khaled cites as an example of the entente between Iran and Al-Qaeda "the fact that the Al-Qaeda No. 2 (Ayman Al-Zawahiri) has always carefully avoided criticizing this country in his discourse, despite the deep ideological differences between the (Sunni) Organisation and this (Shiite) country"**. Yet, last September, Zawahiri fiercely criticized Iran and accused Ayatollah Ali Khamenei of participating in the Western "crusade" against Islam, in a video broadcast on the eve of the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. **Referring on his part to this "alliance of reason", Youssef Al-Dini, a specialist on Islamist groups, said Saturday that "even if they don't share the same ideological convictions, this country [Iran] and Al-Qaeda can always drop their differences and cooperate in order to realise their (joint) objectives."** **"Admittedly, Iran has indirectly supported Al-Qaeda in Iraq against US forces, by providing it arms through businessmen acting as intermediaries"**, one analyst has indicated to Saudiwave, requesting anonymity. "But Al-Qaeda, which considers the Shiite community as the main enemy of the Sunni Salafi Jihadist trend, refuses any collaboration, even tactical, with Iran. Its interests and those of Iran may overlap, but incidentally and without prior coordination," added the analyst, well-informed on the Jihadist movement. **"A potential agreement between Iran and Al-Qaeda is even more inconceivable after the rising political and strategic status of the Shiite community in Iraq and the potential threat that it represents in the Gulf region," he added.**

See: <http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=31258>

bombings.<sup>17</sup> In doing so, they aim for their ideology to lead to the establishment of an “Islamic” Qutbī state based in Irāq. This is what the leaders of al-Qā’idah wish for as they wanted America in Irāq and in fact they planned for that as Muhammad Makāwī (Sayf ul-’Adl al-Misrī) admitted, more on this will be explained shortly. What is important to note here is that az-Zarqāwī formulated this strategy and encouraged it, therefore Irān played a major role which he relied upon in order to achieve this new strategy which was deliberated upon after the fall of Kabul and the failure of al-Qā’idah and the Tālibān in gaining complete control over Afghānistān.

For this reason, the relationship between al-Qā’idah and Irān increased wherein Irān, for its own interest, co-operated and co-ordinated al-Qā’idah in order to weaken America in Irāq and increase their penetration into Irāq in order to prevent an American strike against Irān, or at least delay one, over Irān’s nuclear program in which they hope to possess an atomic bomb. If this was realised by Irān the result and effect of this would be disastrous for the Muslims of Ahl us-Sunnah wa’l-Jama’ah, the rulers and the ruled, states and individuals. For they are all *kuffār* and apostates without exception and they have more enmity than the *yabūd* and *Nasārā* as they creed of the Rāfidī-Safawī state of Irān documents and as the books of their own scholars and “Āyāt” mention!<sup>18</sup> This creed of the *Rāfidah (Safawīyyah)* meets well with the ideology and ’aqedah of al-Qā’idah who also make takfeer of the Muslim rulers and view that it is obligatory to fight them and revolt against them, along with making *takfeer* of the ’Ulama and the Muslim masses who do not agree with their organisation and their misguided deviant ideas and criminal actions.

Then I say, after that, to the leaders of al-Qā’idah who boast night and day that they are waging war against America and the Jewish state which falsely calls itself “Isrā’eel”: is there not a day when you ask yourselves about Irān’s real position, and not the apparent position, towards the oppressive *yabūdī* state? Is there not a day when you ask yourselves about the suspect relationship between Irān and the Jewish State? Is there not a day when you ask yourselves, if you are truthful in your claim to defend the Islamic Ummah, about what Irān did and is still doing with Ahl us-Sunnah and its ’Ulama within Irān?

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<sup>17</sup> **Translator’s note:** this is similar to the strategy of the Omar Bakri’s cult followers known as *al-Muhajiroun*. For they also participate in publicity stunts which result in the whole Muslim community, or more recently the Salafis, being blamed. In doing so, *al-Muhajiroun* hope to cause such tensions which will result in a backlash for the entire Muslim community and at the same time hope that they can increase their followers by saying that “such as backlash is as a result of you being Muslim and we told you so” when in reality it was orchestrated, encouraged and planned as part of the *al-Muhajiroun* strategy.

<sup>18</sup> For the reality of this Rāfidī-Safawī state refer to: Muhammad Mālullāh, *Mawqif ul-Khumaynee min Ahl us-Sunnah*; Dr Ahmad al-Afghānee, *Sarāb fee Irān*.

**Translator’s note:** *Sarāb fee Irān* was translated into English as *The Mirage in Iran* by Dr Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips.

The co-operation between the *yahūd* and Irān, in support and arms, is a reality wherein there is no doubt and their suspect relationship is documented. Unto you, O leaders of al-Qā'idah, and to all who have been deceived by Irān, are some dangerous secrets in regards to this relationship:<sup>19</sup>

1. The French journal FBD exposed that in December 1980 Irān began to receive Israeli weapons from the first day of the Iran-Iraq war. General opinion exposed this reality when an Argentine plane carrying weapons from Tel Aviv to Tehrān crashed on route to Cyprus.<sup>20</sup>
2. Schmitz uncovered from a Belgian company, BLB, on January 2 1985 CE that there were arms deals from Israel to Irān involving \$164 million in exchange for Iranian oil.<sup>21</sup>
3. *Ar-Ra'y* newspaper on April 24 1988 uncovered arms deals from Israel to Irān from 1980-1987. It also reported from Yitzhak Shamīr himself the reasons for supporting Irān, he said: a) Israel had to maintain its relationship with Iranian military leaders; b) the continuation of the (Irān-'Irāq) war weakens Irāq which is a traditional enemy of Israel; c) the (Irān-'Irāq) war increases divisions among the Arabs
4. Iranian Jews donated 70 million Riyāls to Irān for the war effort against al-'Irāq.
5. On February 14 1983 when Khomeini came into power in Irān there was a warm meeting and exchanging of kisses when Rafsanjānee met with Rabbi Ariel Davidi in the Iranian Masjlis ush-Shūrah (Parliament) building. The Rabbi said: "Our doctors and soldiers are now at the Battlefronts."
6. In 1983 the Jewish representative to the Iranian Parliament and thanked Irān in the name of the Jews and mentioned the history of Persian co-operation with the Jews throughout the years.

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<sup>19</sup> See Dr Ahmad al-Afghānī, *Sarāb fī Irān*, pp.38-41

<sup>20</sup> **Translator's note:** A Soviet Su-15TM *Flagon*, flown by Valentin Kalyupin, rammed and destroyed a Canadair CL-44 (LV-JTN) belonging to the Argentine company *Transportes Aereo Rioplatense* over Soviet Armenia, thirty miles southeast of Yerevan, not far from the Iranian border. The CL-44 had just completed the third of twelve scheduled flights from Tel Aviv to Tehran via Larnaca, Cyprus, carrying the aircraft tires and other spares bought from Israeli arms dealers. Killed in the crash of the CL-44 were the pilot Hector Cordero, along with crew members Jose Burgueno, Hermete Boasso and Stuart McCafferty. Cordero, Burgeueno, and Boasso were Argentinians, while McCafferty was from the UK. The Soviet Su-15 pilot, Kalyupin, parachuted to safety.

See: <http://aviation-safety.net/database/record.php?id=19810718-0>

<sup>21</sup> **Translator's note:** In July 1985 Israel sent American made GBM-71 TOW missiles to Iran through an arms dealer named Manucher Ghorbanifar, a friend of Iran's Prime Minister. Hours after receiving the weapons, one hostage, the Reverend Benjamin Weir was released.

7. A contract was made with a group of officers from the Israeli Air Force and Irān involving paying \$10,000 to each of those officers via the Jewish arms dealer Ya'acov Nimrodi who was the Israeli military attaché in Tehrān.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> **Translator's note:** for more on this refer to Professors Jonathan Marshall, Peter Dale Scott and Jane Hunter, *The Iran Contra Connection: Secret Teams and Covert Operations in the Reagan Era* (South End Press, 1987). The book also mentions on page 169: *'The Israeli Interest in Iran'*:

**...Israeli interests in non-Arab Iran became prominent as early as the 1950s, when Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence agency, cooperated with the CIA in establishing the Shah's secret police, SAVAK. A 1979 CIA report on Mossad notes that:**

**The main purpose of the Israeli relationship with Iran was the development of a pro-Israel and anti-Arab policy on the part of Iranian officials. Mossad has engaged in joint operations with SAVAK over the years since the late 1950s. Mossad aided SAVAK activities and supported the Kurds in Iraq. The Israelis also regularly transmitted to the Iranians intelligence reports on Egypt's activities in the Arab countries, trends and developments in Iraq, and Communist activities affecting Iran.**"

Cooperation between Israel and Iran touched many fields, including oil, trade, air transport, and various forms of technical assistance. But their most important mutual interest was in the military sphere. Like the United States, Israel cemented its relationship with Iran by the exchange of arms for oil, which both sides kept alive through the worst of the OPEC oil embargo. The Iranian arms market was worth at least \$500 million a year to Israel. The Shah bought everything from Gabriel anti-ship missiles to advanced communications equipment. In 1977, Israel arranged a \$1 billion arms-for-oil deal around Operation Flower, a joint Israeli-Iranian project to build a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface missile. And like their American counterparts, certain Israelis also seem to have been part of the corrupt nexus through which top Iranian political and military leaders were enriched through arms sale commissions. "When the Israelis decide to change their policy," one top State Department official told a reporter in the mid-1970s, "the first place the Israeli jet touches down is Tehran. Moshe Dayan is in and out of there quite frequently."

**No Israeli representative in Iran during the Shah's reign was more significant or influential than Ya'acov Nimrodi, Israel's military attaché. He reportedly helped organize and encourage the rebellion of Kurdish tribesmen against Iraq, the Shah's main political and military rival in the region. As the chief government agent for Israel's burgeoning arms industry, known as an all-purpose "fixer," Nimrodi was intimate with the Shah and his generals. "I was in partnership with the Shah," he told friends. (Among other coups, Nimrodi sold the Iranian army on the Uzi submachine gun.) And as the Mossad agent who could properly boast of having "built" SAVAK into an efficient if brutal intelligence service, he was no less intimate with the keepers of the Shah's secrets. With the arrival of the Khomeini regime, Nimrodi kept open his lines of communication as a private arms dealer who would become central to the Reagan arms-for-hostage talks.**

Though Israel, along with the United States, suffered a grievous loss with the fall of the Shah, its leaders concluded that lasting geo-political interests would eventually triumph over religious ideology and produce an accommodation between Tel Aviv and Tehran. The onset of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980 gave

Israeli leaders a special incentive to keep their door open to the Islamic rulers in Iran: the two non-Arab countries now shared a common Arab enemy. **As Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon told the Washington Post in May 1982, justifying Israeli arms sales to Tehran, “Iraq is Israel’s enemy and we hope that diplomatic relations between us and Iran will be renewed as in the past.” Four months later he told a Paris press conference, “Israel has a vital interest in the continuing of the war in the Persian Gulf, and in Iran’s victory.”** Such views were not Sharon’s alone; Prime Ministers Itzhak Shamir (Likud) and Shimon Peres (Labor) shared them too.

To this day, prominent Israelis still argue that strategic calculus unashamedly. Retired Gen. Aharon Yariv, former head of military intelligence, told a conference at Tel Aviv University in late 1986 that “it would be good if the Iran-Iraq war ended in a tie, but it would be even better if it continued.” Otherwise, Iraq might open an “eastern front” against Israel. 19 The carnage of human life didn’t figure in the equation at all. Uri Lubrani, Israel’s chief representative in Iran under the Shah and Nimrodi’s superior in Mossad, recently justified continued arms sales because “Khomeinism will disappear and Israel and the United States will again have influence in Iran.”

One other consideration, rarely articulated, also swayed successive Israeli leaders: money. According to Gary Sick, an expert on Iran who served on the NSC under Presidents Ford, Carter and Reagan, “Israel acknowledged that arms sales were good business. One out of 10 Israeli workers is employed in arms-related production; military items constitute more than a quarter of Israel’s industrial exports.” The distinguished Israeli defense correspondent Ze’ev Schiff states that Israel’s pro-Iran policy has been “guided by a ravenous hunger for profit rather than by strategic considerations...” This hunger was all the more acute in view of severe unemployment that hit the Israeli arms industry in 1979 after the Iran market shriveled. **Nimrodi, the Mossad-agent-turned-arms-dealer, recalled that when he reported to the Israeli government on the millions of dollars to be had from arms sales to Khomeini’s Iran, “people’s eyes lit up here. They have been laying people off in the defense industry, and this meant jobs.”**

#### The Arms Channel Opens

**Israel lost no time supplying the new Khomeini regime with small quantities of arms, even after the seizure of the U.S. embassy.** The first sales included spare parts for U.S.-made F-4 Phantom jets; a later deal in October 1980 included parts for U.S.-made tanks. Israel informed Washington, only “after the fact, when they were far down the line and right into the middle of the thing,” according to a former State Department official. To Begin’s ex post facto request for approval, “the answer was instant, unequivocal and negative,” writes Gary Sick, the Iran expert on Carter’s NSC. The White House was in fact aghast to find that its embargo had been flatly violated. **“We learned much to our dismay,” Brzezinski noted later, “that the Israelis had been secretly supplying American spare parts to the Iranians without much concern for the negative impact this was having on our leverage with the Iranians on the hostage issue.” Secretary of State Edmund Muskie demanded that Israel cease its shipments; Prime Minister Begin promised to comply. In fact, however, the supply line stayed open without Washington’s approval, carrying tank parts and ammunition.** Why didn’t the administration crack down? One reason is simply that no president since Eisenhower has ever really punished Israel for acting against U.S. interests. Prime Minister Begin bombed the Iraqi nuclear reactor, invaded Lebanon, annexed the Golan heights and speeded up the settlement of the occupied West Bank much to the Reagan administration’s embarrassment, but considerations of military strategy and

Israel's political clout in Congress always gave the client state the upper hand. Moreover, the administration could rarely prove what it suspected. Israel did its best to disguise these shipments by using layers of foreign brokers to cloak their source. Notes Ha'aretz correspondent Yo'av Karny "The cloak of secrecy that surrounds Israeli arms exports is so tight that one can compare it to the technique for smuggling hard drugs." When caught in the act, Israeli officials maintained they were simply selling domestic arms, not embargoed U.S. weapons. "Whenever we would get word of shipments," one American official explained, "the State Department would raise the issue with Israel, and we would get the standard lecture and promises that there were no U.S. weapons involved."

**That standard lecture was clearly false, though Washington may have lacked usable evidence to prove it. U.S.-made weapons were very much for sale. On 24 July 1981, Israeli arms dealer Ya'acov Nimrodi-later to play a vital role in the arms-for-hostages negotiations-apparently signed a deal with Iran's Ministry of National Defense to sell \$135,842,000 worth of arms, including Lance missiles, Copperhead shells and Hawk missiles. A sale of such magnitude must have had Israeli government acquiescence. Nimrodi's close personal friend Ariel Sharon, a wartime comrade from the 1948 struggle, likely kept tabs on, if he did not direct, the private dealer's sales with Iran.**

Sometime the same year, David Kimche, director general of Israel's foreign ministry, apparently approached Secretary of State Alexander Haig and his counselor Robert McFarlane to discuss proposed Israeli shipments of \$10 million to \$15 million in spare parts to "moderates" in Iran. Kimche may have been referring to a contract to supply 360 tons of tank spares and ammunition-worth about \$28 million, twice his estimate-to Iran by air via Cyprus. But Haig denies that he ever approved any such shipments, a claim strengthened by the admission of Israeli officials that they went ahead based only on Haig's alleged failure to disapprove. In any case, the shipments in question paled beside what Nimrodi was then arranging.

In November 1981, Israeli Defense Minister Sharon visited Washington, shopping for approval of similar arms sales. His U.S. counterpart Caspar Weinberger, flatly turned him down. Sharon then went to Haig, hoping for acquiescence from the State Department. Again, McFarlane handled many of the discussions with Sharon and Kimche; this time Haig unequivocally opposed any violation of the embargo. In numerous discussions with Israeli officials thereafter, administration decision makers flatly refused requests for permits to ship U.S. arms to Iran, and strenuously discouraged Israel from sending its own weapons to the radical Khomeini regime. Undersecretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger at one point summoned the Israeli ambassador to protest his country's continued sales-only to be assured that they had been stopped. And officials who ran Operation Staunch, the project to block Iran's access to the world arms market, were never discouraged from extending their efforts to Israeli-linked deals. **Yet as in 1979-80, Israel pursued its policy anyway, in flat violation of its arms re-export agreements with the Pentagon. In a May 1982 interview with the Washington Post, Sharon claimed that Israeli shipments had been cleared "with our American colleagues" months earlier and that details of all the shipments were supplied to the administration. Later that year, Israel's ambassador Moshe Arens declared that Israel's arms sales were cleared at "almost the highest levels" in Washington, "inconsequential" in size, and designed to undermine the Khomeini regime. Both times the State Department flatly contradicted the Israelis' claims. At least Sharon and Arens were more credible than Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who declared after the Irangate scandal broke in 1986 that "Israel's policy is not to sell arms to Iran."**

All the standard propaganda themes and practices were in place. Israel would continue seeking approval for arms sales on the basis of their potential political leverage, but would ship arms willy-nilly while falsely claiming Washington's sanction.

**And those shipments would continue to be enormous in size, estimated by experts at the Jaffee Institute for Strategic Studies in Tel Aviv at \$500 million in value from 1980-83. Other arms market experts have put the total value at more than \$500 million a year, including aircraft parts, artillery and ammunition.**

**Anecdotes abound in the world press relating to Israeli sales to Iran:**

\* In March 1982, the *New York Times* cited documents indicating that Israel had supplied half or more of all arms reaching Tehran in the previous 18 months, amounting to at least \$100 million in sales.

\* Foreign intelligence sources told *Aerospace Daily* in August 1982 that Israel's support was "crucial" to keeping Iran's air force flying against Iraq.

**\* An alleged former CIA agent reportedly visited Israel in 1982, met with the chief of staff of the Israeli Defense Forces and head of military intelligence, and "struck a deal with them involving the transfer of weapons and equipment, captured by Israel during the Lebanon war, to Iran."**

**\* Israeli sources told *Newsweek* that "they sold the Iranians much of the light weaponry and ammunition that the Israeli army had captured during its invasion of Lebanon; subsequently, they sold overhauled jet engines, spare parts for American-made M-48 tanks, ammunition and other hardware-\$100 million worth in 1983 alone."**

\* *Newsweek* also reported that after an Iranian defector landed his F-4 Phantom jet in Saudi Arabia in 1984, intelligence experts determined that many of its parts had originally been sold to Israel, and had then been re-exported to Tehran in violation of U.S. law.

**\* In 1984 and early 1985, a single one of Israel's many European brokers, based in Sweden, reportedly shipped hundreds of tons of TNT and other explosives to Iran, often by way of Argentina, worth 500 million kroner.**

\* The Milan weekly *Panorama* reported that **Israel had sold the Khomeini regime 45,000 Uzi submachine guns, antitank missile launchers, missiles, howitzers and aircraft replacement parts. "A large part of the booty from the PLO during the 1982 Lebanon campaign wound up in Tehran," the magazine claimed.**

\* Manila newspapers have reported since the *Irangate* scandal broke that former armed forces chief of staff Gen. Fabian Ver, a crony of Ferdinand Marcos, supplied phony end user certificates to allow Israeli intermediaries to divert U.S. arms to Iran in 1984.

Refer to: [http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Ronald\\_Reagan/Irangate\\_Israel\\_TICC.html](http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Ronald_Reagan/Irangate_Israel_TICC.html)

In the journal the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs* (November 1986), page a special report by Jane Hunter entitled 'Israeli Arms Sales to Iran' documented:

In September, when the Israeli government radio accused Iranian troops of training Lebanese Shiite guerrillas for attacks on the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army, and said that Iranians themselves might also have been among those who attacked Israeli positions in Lebanon, the US media reported those charges in great detail. **None found the time or space, however, to note how ironic it was for Israel to complain about Iranian military activities.**

**Iran might have been hard put to continue its costly six-year-old war with Iraq—not to mention simultaneously stirring up followers of the Ayatollah Khomeini in Lebanon—if Israel had not been willing to sell the Khomeini government great quantities of the**

**weapons Iran desperately needed to keep its army in the field.** That is only one of the anomalies of Israel's booming arms trade. US law and US policy also come in for some stretching and twisting. Over the course of the Gulf war, Iran's quest for weapons has become legendary, with many countries and hordes of private arms dealers eager to conclude arms deals and reap the premium commissions Iran offers. Israel, with standing access to the same models of US-made arms upon which the Shah based Iran's arsenal, and with its desire to build up an indigenous arms industry, has led the pack. The *London Observer* estimated that Israel's arms sales to Iran total \$500 million annually.

Before 1979, when Shah Muhammad Reza Pahlavi held power, Iran was the world's biggest buyer of Israeli arms. The Islamic fundamentalist government which succeeded the Shah militantly damned Zionism up and down and hung a prominent Iranian Jew for "spying for Israel." **In 1980, however, when the Iraq-Iran war began, Iranian representatives met in Paris with Israel's deputy defense minister and worked out a "Jews for arms" deal. Iran permitted Jews to emigrate and Israel sold Iran ammunition and spare parts for Chieftain tanks and US-made F-4 Phantom aircraft.** Channeled through a private Israeli arms dealer, this particular agreement appropriately ended in 1984, when Iran was slow in paying its bills.

**Although secrecy is the first principle in the netherworld of arms trading, details of several subsequent major Israeli arms sales to Iran have come to light. In 1981, Ya'acov Nimrodi, an intimate of leaders across the Israeli political spectrum, sold the Iranian defense ministry \$135,842,000 worth of Hawk anti-aircraft missiles, 155 mm. mortars, ammunition, and other weapons through his Tel Aviv-based company, International Desalination Equipment, Ltd. From 1955 to 1979 Nimrodi had been Israel's military attache in Tehran.**

**On July 24, 1984, Radio Luxembourg reported that Nimrodi had met in Zurich with the deputy defense minister and the top intelligence officer of Iran and with Rif'at al-Assad, the brother of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.** Swiss government sources said that the meeting resulted in **a deal to ship 40 truckloads of weapons a day from Israel to Iran, via Syria and Turkey.** On September 15, 1985, a DC-8 cargo plane returning from Iran and supposedly bound for Malaga, Spain, made an emergency landing in Tel Aviv. Investigation revealed that the plane—recently acquired from an obscure Miami firm by a shadowy Brussels-based "Nigerian" company—had been flying Hawk missiles from the US to Iran via Israel. **A Boeing 707 registered to the company had been carrying loads of 1,250 TOW missiles from Israel to Iran via Malaga.** At about the same time the *London Observer* reported that a ship carrying 25,000 tons of Israeli material was making a rush delivery, sailing directly to the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas rather than first going to Zaire where the Iranian buyers would inspect the cargo.

In May, 1986, West German authorities foiled an \$81 million ammunition deal and uncovered a tank deal in the process. Charged in the case were an Israeli and a former Israeli citizen. The West German weekly *Stern* said a telex from the state-owned Israeli Military Industries dated April 1 indicated official Israeli involvement. In June of this year a Swedish businessman was reported to have acted as intermediary for Israeli sales of explosives to Iran. **The shipments went from Israel to Iran via Argentina.** In September, 1986, United Press International reported that the Danish Sailor's Union had logs and records to prove that since May a Danish freighter had taken four 900-ton shipments from the Israeli port of Eilat to Bandar Abbas in Iran. The union was certain the arms were US-made.

Re-selling without permission arms acquired from the US and the sale of US weapons to Iran are both prohibited by US law. In separate incidents involving sales negotiated within the US, federal authorities have arrested two Israeli military reservists and a Yugoslav-American, Paul Cutter. Cutter, who has connections to Israeli Minister of Trade and Industry Ariel Sharon, and who also told co-workers he was authorized to sell arms Israel captured in Lebanon in 1982, has been convicted and jailed. The Israeli government disassociated itself from these men.

Now, however, a federal “sting” operation has cracked the biggest arms deal yet. US Customs Service agents drew retired Israeli army general Avraham Bar-Am and 12 co-conspirators (three of them Israelis) into a carefully-laid trap last April. Tapes made by the Customs Service reveal Israeli government involvement in a \$2.6 billion conspiracy to sell US-made arms to Iran through third countries. On recordings made available to the *Chicago Tribune*, Samuel Evans, a London-based American lawyer who coordinated two separate conspiracies to offer sophisticated aircraft, missiles, and ordnance to Iran, is heard to say that he would be discussing the deal with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and that the authority for the transaction went “right through to (Prime Minister) Peres.”

The case is particularly serious because federal authorities presented evidence in their indictment that the deal included phony re-export certificates attesting that Israel was re-selling surplus arms to Turkey, which is legal, rather than to Iran, which is not. General Bar-Am claimed from his jail cell that he had an Israeli government license to sell arms. Denying any involvement, Israeli officials insisted that the license was only to prospect for sales, one of a thousand distributed to former military officers. The Israelis have worked hard to bolster this contention. In late September Defense Minister Rabin called a press conference to say the permit process would be changed to avoid the appearance of government approval. **But an earlier statement by Ya’acov Nimrodi that such sales are government-authorized and that permits come from a special department in the Israeli Defense Ministry** and are difficult to get contradicts Rabin—as have many reports over the years that it is common Israeli practice to sell arms through fronts and agents. The US government has avoided dealing head-on in public with the Israeli government over this issue. When the Bermuda conspirators were arrested it was reported that the Israeli ambassador was called in for a stern warning. It is unlikely, however, that prosecutors will focus on the Israeli government’s role when the Bermuda conspirators stand trial in New York this November.

Over the last six years Washington has several times expressed its disapproval of arms sales to Iran. During the 1979-1981 hostage crisis, Israel was specifically asked to stop deliveries while Iran was holding US hostages and it is possible that Israel complied. At an October 1 luncheon he hosted, Secretary of State George Shultz assured diplomats from the Arab states of the Gulf that Israel had told US officials it had stopped selling arms to Iran in 1983. Shultz, in fact, accused the Soviet Union of not clamping down on sales by its allies to Iran! During the Reagan administration US policy has swung through various levels of support for Iraq. Israel’s often-stated policy on the Gulf war is to keep it going as long as possible because the dreadful carnage ties up the combatants and prevents either from attacking Israel. **In 1983, then-Defense Minister Ariel Sharon blurted out during a US speaking engagement that Israel sold arms to Iran because it regarded Iraq as the greater enemy, and that the sales had been thoroughly discussed with US officials. US officials acknowledged such discussions but denied that Israel had US permission.**”

Another article by Dr Alexander von Paleske entitled *‘Israel has a long history of supplying Iran with weapons’* dated 9 March 2007 stated:

The Shah of Iran, who was chased from power in 1979, had bought plenty of weapons, before his departure, in the US, for roughly 18 billion US Dollars. Amongst them 80 war planes of the type F14. The

As for the relationship between Irān and America then despite the apparent enmity which the Iranian Revolution showed towards America, which included for example describing America as

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Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran and his government needed them badly, after Saddam Hussein attacked Iran in 1980. However the US government had imposed an arms embargo after the occupation and hostage taking in the US embassy in Tehran in late 1979. So urgently needed spare parts were not for sale in the US for Tehran. To the surprise of the US government, this embargo was without any effect. **The Iranians were helped by Israel. Israel did not care a bit about the embargo. Money did the talking. They saw a chance to make extra profits and keep the Iran-Iraq war going, two of its enemies fighting against each other. Israel regarded Iraq as the bigger enemy, whilst the European countries and the US thought otherwise. After the Mossad had given the green light, the arms deals were negotiated by an Israeli general by the name of Avraham Bar-Am, famous for his brutality against Arabs in the Lebanon-war.** Participating in these arms deals was allegedly a German arms dealer group comprising Hans Bihn, Hans Schneider, Hermann Moll and Ralph Kopka. They were well connected to a former top general of the German army, Bundeswehr, by the name of Albert Schnez. On the Israeli side it was a Ron Harel, acting for Israeli Military industries (IMI), his representative in Germany was a Henry Kamaniecky, Israeli with a German passport. The Iranians were represented by a Abdolfath Katibi and a German by the name of Stephan Kaiser. The US, after they found out, protested, however they themselves later on sold weapons via Israel into Iran in 1986, it was afterwards called the “Iran Contra Scandal”.

### **Weapons of mass destruction into Iran**

Already in 1989 an Israeli arms dealer, involved in the lucrative Iran-weapons axis by the name of Charles Caplan, tried to sell the nerve gas Sarin to the Iranians. He was helped by a South Korean Juwhan Yun. However the US customs and police got wind of it and stopped it. These modest beginnings, that had no consequences for the actors, were followed by a more professional sale not only of raw material for the nerve gases Sarin and Mustard, but also the sale of blueprints for a factory plus the KnowHow for the production of these nerve gases. Bought in China and shipped to Bandar e Abbas/Iran. Sarin is one of the worst weapons of mass destruction. Invented by Adolf Hitler's chemical industries in 1937, however never used in WW2. It was, however, used in a horrific terrorist attack in the subway of Tokyo in 1995, in which more than 5000 people were injured.

### **The Buyers**

The buyers are Dr. Abbaspour Tehrani Fard, head of Iran's department 105 (defence industries). He is a close friend of Iran's former President Rafsanjani. The buys are made by the Vienna Crew, Farschi, Felber & Co.

### **The Sellers**

The Sellers are two groups. One group comprises the arms dealer Nahum Manbar in cohort with the Israeli Secret Service Shin Bet. Equally involved the British Mi6 with its agents Richard Tomlinson and Joyce Kiddie. The second group comprised the Israeli Colonel and former F4 pilot Moshe Regev alias Regentreich in cohort with Shin Bet. He was supported by the German Gerhard Merz who later on in 2004 was involved in the failed coup in Equatorial Guinea and died there amidst the allegations of torture. Apparently the German Secret Service BND knew about the sales to Iran. The sales of these chemical WMD's were done during the period from 1991 to 1994. At the same time the UN weapons inspectors were searching for these weapons in neighboring Iraq. The Israeli Government ordered a stop of the sales, after weapons once sold by Israel to Iran arrived in South Lebanon in the hands of the Hezbollah.

See: <http://oraclesyndicate.twoday.net/stories/3418009/>

the “great Satan”, the relationship between the two countries is deep and well-documented. As for the apparent enmity displayed by Irān to America then this is nothing but a silly show which is not believed except by the most naive of people who are motivated by emotion and enthusiasm and who believe in the enemies of the noble Companions, who believe in *taqiyyah* and gain nearness to Allāh, Mighty and Majestic, by it. Yet whoever has *nifāq* as a *deen* how can an intelligent trust them or believe in their politics?! It is for all of the intelligent Muslims of Ahl us-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah to know that the dubious strategic relationship between Irān, from one angle, and America and “Israel” from another angle, aims to achieve the following:<sup>23</sup>

1. To drain the material and human resources of the region by maintaining civil wars between Ahl us-Sunnah and the Shī'a such as the war that took place between Irān and al-'Irāq.
2. To make the Middle East a leading importer of American arms via maintaining such wars in the region.
3. To prevent the establishment of a strong Islamic Sunni state as this benefits Iranian, American and Israeli designs.
4. To control the resources and capabilities of the region such as oil.
5. Leads to Sunnis being preoccupied with the Shī'a which distracts the Arab Muslims from the usurping entity in beloved Palestine.

From the secrets within this topic is what was reported by French newspaper *Le Figaro* about a plane carrying American weapons which reached Tehrān on 14 September 1985. America also sent a cargo of ground-to-air Hawk missiles during that period. The newspaper *ad-Dustūr* reported on 27 November 1986 that al-Khomeini instructed to have closer relations with America in order to strengthen the position of the moderates in Irān!!? Just as Irān was the second largest producer of oil to America in exchange for American equipment which it used to destroy al-'Irāq.

I also say: as for the apparent enmity between Irān and America then it is neither a real enmity based on an affirmed principle with Irān nor is it due to Irān's claims of defending the Muslims in Palestine or anywhere else; nor is it out of what Irān's claims to stop American encroachment in the region. The reality is that it is a dispute over plundering the capabilities and fortunes from this region of the world, with oil being at the head of these interests. As America is a fierce competitor with Irān and its presence diminishes its plans in the region, Irān manifests enmity towards America yet this would quickly disappear if Irān obtained a sufficient share of fortunes and capabilities of the Arabs and Muslims. As for the inquisition of Ahl us-Sunnah in Irān then

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<sup>23</sup> See *Sarāb fī Irān*, pp.42-43

this is very severe indeed and indicates clearly the amount of hatred and enmity that the Rāfidī-Safawīs have for Ahl us-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah. Unto you, O Sunni Muslim, are some realities in regards to this issue which are very dangerous indeed:<sup>24</sup>

1. Many Muslims are ignorant of the fact that within Irān 20% of its population are from Ahl us-Sunnah, this is about 10 million. They mainly live in the mountain regions of Kurdistan (the Iranian end), Zāhedān and Baluchistān which is in south-eastern Irān. Sunnis also live in regions which are far from the major Iranian cities out of fear that their children will be forcibly recruited to join the army. Some Sunnis live in Shīrāz, Mashhad and face gross injustice and severe persecution.
2. Khomeini's revolution brought with it the killing of Ahl us-Sunnah even of those who participated in the Revolution. 'Ulama and thinkers were executed such as Professor Bahman ash-Shakūrī while others were expelled such as Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali Khālidī, while the leader of Ahl us-Sunnah, Ahmad Mufī Zādāh, was imprisoned along with his student.
3. The Army of the Guardians of the (Khomeini) Islamic Revolution (aka Revolutionary Guards) attacked the regions of Ahl us-Sunnah with planes, tanks and gunfire accusing the Sunnis of being communists even though there were no communists amongst them.
4. Those who killed Ahl us-Sunnah and attacked their regions with all sorts of weapons were documented as saying: **“These are the offspring of 'Umar, 'Uthmān and Mu'awiyah so show no mercy to them!”**
5. 'Ali Khameni, the former President of the Iranian Republic stated in a secret gathering in Tehrān: **“We are taking a program to remove Ahl us-Sunnah from Irān within the next fifty years.”**
6. Revolutionary Guards transgressed against the religious schools of Ahl us-Sunnah in Khurasān in the city of Sālihabād. Students were beaten, teachers were imprisoned and other schools were destroyed in Baluchistan and the Nakwār area.
7. The Iranian government formed special departments and organisations designed to spread Rāfidī-Shī'ī ideology within the regions of Ahl us-Sunnah specifically so as to force them to change their *deen* either by way of encouragement or by way of warning. These organisations included: *The Islamic Guidance Organisation; the Army Creedal-Political Organisation; Schools Educational Departments; Jibād and Building Organisation; the Shī'ī Army and the Organisation of Purifying Schools and Universities from Opposers to the Revolution* (i.e. Ahl us-Sunnah).

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<sup>24</sup> See 'AbdulHaq al-Asfahānī, *Usūl Ahl us-Sunnah fī Irān*, pp.11-24; *Sarāb fī Irān*, pp.48-56.

8. The journal *al-Mujtama'* (September 18 1984) mentioned that Irān sought from Ahl us-Sunnah that they attest to *Wilāyat ul-Faqeeh*<sup>25</sup> and if not then those employees will have either have their salaries reduced, or be sacked or be imprisoned or be banished. The journal also mentioned the names of those people from Ahl us-Sunnah who were arrested and imprisoned in Irān.
9. Irān “purified” the Masjid of Shaykh Muhammad Sālih Diyā'ī, the Imam of Masjid Bandar-e-'Abbās and the leader of Ahl us-Sunnah. This occurred after his left hand was amputated, his left eye was pulled out, his nails pulled out and electrocution. Irān tried to deny this occurrence yet this was repudiated by the journal *al-Mujtama'* (20 September 1994) via reference to irrefutable documentation and the names of witnesses. This was also reported by the magazine *al-Jibād* in November 1994, pp.38-39.
10. The Supreme Council of Ahl us-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah in Irān held a media conference in London on 24 May 1990 and Ali Akbar Mullā Zādāh spoke about the situation of Ahl us-Sunnah in Irān. He mentioned that Ahl us-Sunnah are deprived of their rights in comparison to other minorities, he also mentioned the Shī'a assaults on their areas, schools and Masājid. He also mentioned the imprisonment that Ahl us-Sunnah faced and the difficult restrictions placed on them and their being deprived from positions, to the extent that the religious judges in their areas were Shī'a. He also mentioned that students from the Sunnah were deprived from university education and that Zāhedān University had 9 students from the Sunnah and 2000 students from the Shī'a even though the residents of Zāhedān are 90% Sunni.

This is the reality of the state of Irān and what is hidden is more dangerous and vile and what can be mentioned on this is lengthy. So fear Allāh O you leaders of al-Qā'idah who scream against the Muslims rulers of Ahl us-Sunnah for, as they claim, allying with the *yahūd* and crusaders even though (i.e. al-Qā'idah) at the same time ally with the enemies of the companions from the *Rāfidab-Safawiyyah*! Whoever wants further explanation and detail on this refer to the book *Sarāb fī Irān* by Dr Ahmad al-Afghānī which is a book that despite its small size contains important realities and surreptitious aspects related to the *Rāfidīyyah-Safawiyyah* state of Irān.

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<sup>25</sup> **Translator's Note:** The *Shī'ī* concept of *Wilāyat ul-Faqeeh*, referred to in Persian as *Velayat-e-Faqih*, means “guardianship of the jurist”. According to the *Shī'a* the Supreme Leader assumes this role as is the case in Iran.