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December 1, 2008

His Excellency Nouri Kamel al-Maliki
Prime Minister
Republic of Iraq
c/o Embassy of the Republic of Iraq
3421 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the humanitarian situation in Camp Ashraf, located in Diyala Governorate. Recently, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights sent a letter to Foreign Minister Hoyshar Zebari imploring your government not to deport Ashraf residents to Iran, which would be contrary to the long-standing principle of non-refoulement. Furthermore, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted in a report to the United Nations Security Council earlier this month that those charged with protecting Ashraf – namely the Government of Iraq – are responsible for meeting the humanitarian needs of the camp's residents, including protecting those residents against forced repatriation to a country where they would likely face imprisonment, torture, or death.

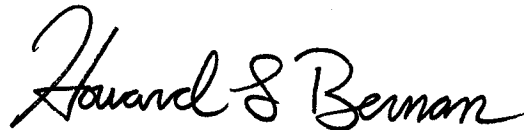
As you know, members of the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) have resided in Ashraf for 22 years, and now live under threat of attack from Iran and its surrogates inside Iraq. Recently, your government signed an agreement with the United States guaranteeing the physical security and protection of Ashraf residents following the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the area.

I strongly believe that your government must live up to its commitment to protect those individuals living in Ashraf and prevent their involuntary return to Iran – where authorities there continue to issue threats against MEK members. I am troubled, however, by statements made by members of your cabinet and other officials in your government threatening to expel Ashraf residents from Iraq. The United Nations, along with prominent human rights groups, has made it clear that attempts to expel residents of Ashraf would be seen as a serious derogation of Iraq's international legal responsibilities.

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I look forward to working with your government to help ensure the continued protection and well-being of those living in Ashraf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard L. Berman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOWARD L. BERMAN
Chairman

HLB:dh/mco

cc: The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State

The Honorable Ryan Crocker
American Ambassador to Iraq

General Raymond Odierno, USA
Commanding General, MFNI-Iraq