



**National Council of Resistance of Iran**  
**U.S. Representative Office**

1747 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 1125, Washington, DC 20006  
Tel: 202-747-7847; Fax 202-330-5346; info@ncrius.org; twitter: @ncrius

JUL 9 8 2022

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**NCRI-US New Book Exposes Latest Terrorist Game Plan of Iranian Regime's IRGC-Quds Force: Formation of Proxy Naval Units**

***The new book details, Quds Force's (IRGC-QF) activities in recruiting and training of mercenaries for newly created terrorist units to attack maritime targets.***

**WASHINGTON, DC, March 1, 2022** -- On Monday, February 28, 2022, the U.S. Representative Office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI-US), released its new book, entitled 'IRAN - Exposing the Latest Terrorist Game Plan of the IRGC-Quds Force: Formation of Proxy Naval Units.' The book, for the first time, unveils details of how Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Quds Force (IRGC-QF) has been recruiting mercenaries for newly created, armed, and trained terrorist units to attack ships and maritime targets in the region. The IRGC-QF is the IRGC's extraterritorial arm.

The new NCRI-US book is available on Amazon in paperback and kindle versions. It is also available on Barnes & Noble, and all other major book publishing platforms.

After the elimination of Qassem Soleimani in January 2020, which weakened the Quds Force's ability to directly encroach in the countries of the region, the IRGC's capacity to intrude in Iraq, Lebanon and Syria has been on the decline. To compensate for this failure, the IRGC has turned to intervention in Yemen, especially escalating naval terrorist activities and threatening the international shipping on its shores

The command headquarters of the Quds Force in Yemen recruits Houthi forces and sends them to Iran for training, where the IRGC- QF conducts training in specialized naval courses for its Yemeni, Iraqi, Syrian, Lebanese, and African mercenaries, who are then dispatched to their home countries to form proxy naval units.

The book shows where these mercenaries are trained, what kind of training they go through, how and where they are dispatched and what the targets are.

It also shows how the Quds Force has set up a smuggling network to provide weapons and equipment to its proxies for naval attacks. One of the means is using small boats along the coasts of the Sea of Oman, most importantly the sea port known as Bandar-e-Jask.

The Quds Force has equipped the Houthis with speedboats, missiles, mines, and other weapons to expand conflicts into the Arabian Sea, Bab al-Mandab, and the Red Sea.

Since early 2021, and more so since August 2021, when Ebrahim Raisi took office as the new president of the Iranian regime, Tehran has stepped up its maritime terrorist operations using its foreign mercenaries, especially the Houthis.

Tehran's latest game plan to advance its terrorist agenda by prioritizing mercenaries and stepping up regional mayhem is intended to project power and cover its fundamental weakness inside Iran.

The book concludes by outlining some of the key policy implications of the new revelations:

- The continued offers of concessions by Western countries and lack of accountability for the Iranian regime's terrorist operations and its killings at home, have emboldened Tehran to step up its defiant behavior, creating mayhem in the region.
- The billions of dollars plundered from Iran's national wealth that the regime received from the easing of sanctions in the context of the nuclear deal have been expropriated to build and produce weapons, fund and train proxies in order to wage maritime terror operations, and export regional terrorism and warmongering. This is while a vast majority of the Iranian people live below the poverty line.
- Since December 2017, there have been eight major uprisings, as well as successive protests by various sectors of Iranian society demanding fundamental change. Tehran's latest game plan to create terrorist naval units and step up regional mayhem is intended to project power and cover its fundamental weakness inside Iran. The regime hopes that this image will provide additional leverage internationally and domestically.
- Regardless of what the Iranian regime might do with its nuclear weapons program and its negotiations with the P5+1, Tehran must be held accountable for its proxy wars in the region, its terrorism, its development of ballistic missiles, and its egregious violations of human rights and suppression of its own citizens engaged in ongoing uprisings.
- This new information is added evidence that none of the sanctions against the regime should be lifted. To the contrary, additional sanctions are warranted as a result of the Iranian regime's escalation of violence in the region and stepped up repression at home.

The book has satellite imagery, charts, and other illustrations.

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JUL 03 2022

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## **Policy Experts to Assess Tehran's Threat, Prospects for Change in Iran**

***The online conference on March 25th will discuss Tehran's nuclear & regional defiance, its support for the invasion of Ukraine.***

**WASHINGTON, DC, March 22, 2022** -- The U.S. Representative Office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI-US) will hold an online conference on Friday, March 25, 2022, to discuss Iran's internal situation, Tehran's nuclear and regional defiance, its support for the invasion of Ukraine and prospects for fundamental change.

Distinguished policy and national security figures will join to consider a framework for an Iran policy effective in neutralizing Tehran's malign conduct and supportive of the Iranian people's aspirations for freedom and democracy.

### **SPEAKERS**

- Dr. Steven Bucci, visiting fellow at The Heritage Foundation and a former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
- Amb. Joseph DeTrani, former Director of the National Counterproliferation Center and Special Adviser to the Director of National Intelligence
- Amb. Paula Dobriansky, former Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs
- Amb. Robert G. Joseph, former Undersecretary of State for Arms Control & International Security
- Hon. Michael Mukasey, 81st Attorney General of the United States
- Dr. Behzad Raofi, Project Verification and Validation Lead Engineer and Chief Validation Engineer for Space Missions
- Amb. Mitchell Reiss, former Director of Policy Planning, U.S. Department of State
- Jonathan Ruhe, JINSA Director of Foreign Policy
- Soona Samsami, U.S. Representative, National Council of Resistance of Iran
- Hon. David Shedd, former Acting Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
- Dr. Siamack Shojai, Professor and former Dean of The Cotsakos College of Business, William Paterson University
- Hon. Robert G. Torricelli, former Democratic Senator from New Jersey
- General (ret.) Chuck F. Wald, former Deputy Commander of United States -European Command

Briefing will be moderated by Alireza Jafarzadeh, NCRI-US Deputy Director

**DATE: Friday, March 25, 2022; 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM (EDT)**

**To RSVP and for media inquiries, contact: [media@ncrius.org](mailto:media@ncrius.org)**

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JUL 03 2022

### **NCRI-US Unveils IRGC Quds Force's Proxy Naval Terror Units, Explains Its Policy Implications**

***Quds Force is recruiting mercenaries for its newly-established terrorist units aiming to launch attacks against ships and other maritime targets in the region.***

**WASHINGTON, DC, February 14, 2022** -- The Iranian regime's terrorist Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) Quds Force is recruiting mercenaries for its newly-established terrorist units aiming to launch attacks against ships and other maritime targets in the Middle East, according to information obtained by the network associated with the Iranian opposition People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI) - also referred to as the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) - inside Iran. These new terror cells are fully armed and trained by the IRGC Quds Force, according to the information released during a press conference on Wednesday, February 2, held by the Iranian opposition coalition National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) US Representative Office in Washington, DC.

NCRI's representative in the United States, Ms. Soona Samsami opened the press conference and provided an overview of the new information and its policy implications for the U.S. and the world.

Alireza Jafarzadeh, the deputy director of the NCRI-US, followed by providing details of the NCRI's revelation using charts, graphs, satellite imagery, and other information about the new game plan of the IRGC-QF and the newly formed naval units consisting of foreign mercenaries, including the Houthis' (Ansarullah) from Yemen. Following his presentation, Mr. Jafarzadeh addressed questions from reporters attending the event in-person and remotely.

Below is a summary of the information provided by the NCRI.

The IRGC's capacity to continue its meddling campaigns in Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria has been declining following the January 2020 elimination of former IRGC Quds Force chief Qassem Soleimani, known as the Iranian regime's terror mastermind. This strategic blow to Tehran resulted in a weakened Quds Force and a decline in its ability to directly encroach in countries across the Middle East. Desperately needing to compensate for this strategic setback, the IRGC has been ramping up its lethal intervention in Yemen, especially through boosting naval terrorist activities and going as far as using the shores of Yemen to threaten international shipping.

The IRGC Quds Force has established a command headquarters in Yemen busy recruiting forces for the Houthi militias who are sent to Iran to receive training. The Quds Force provides training in specialized naval courses for a long slate of its proxy forces arriving from not only Yemen, but also Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and African countries. These mercenaries are then dispatched to their home countries to launch naval terror cells and carry out attacks based on orders from the Quds Force.

These proxy naval units receive naval commando training in a location called the Khamenei Academy of Naval Sciences and Technology. This primary site is situated in the city of Ziba Kenar on the coastline of the Caspian Sea in Gilan province, northern Iran. A specific branch of

the IRGC's Ziba Kenar University is dedicated solely to the six-month training course allocated for the regime's foreign proxy members affiliated to the Quds force. For example, one such course in naval science and technology was launched for around 200 mercenaries from Yemen back in January of 2020, followed by another group of mercenaries from Iraq in July 2020. They were all sent back to their countries to form the naval units and carry out maritime terrorist operations.

Several Persian Gulf islands, including Farur and Qeshm, have been allocated for the IRGC Quds Force to use for their maritime training of these proxy units. The IRGC Navy has established numerous centers in different areas of Qeshm Island, which itself is considered the main training complexes at the Quds Force's disposal. The island's underground facilities are also being used by the IRGC to stockpile their various weapons, and most importantly, a cache of missiles. This goes parallel to the IRGC Navy and foreign terrorist forces receiving training in this area.

The Quds Force also has an expansive smuggling network busy providing weapons and equipment to its proxies assigned to carry out naval attacks. One method of delivering weapons to Yemen is through third countries, such as Somalia. Another widely used method involves deploying small boats, known as dhows, trekking the coasts of the Gulf of Oman. Bandar-e-Jask is one of Iran's most important ports used to transfer the specified cargo on the dhows and send them off to their destinations.

The Houthis in Yemen have received speedboats, missiles, mines, and other weapons from the IRGC Quds Force. Once equipped with such an itinerary, the Houthis employ tactics focusing on utilizing speedboats and asymmetric warfare, very similar to those seen being deployed by the IRGC Navy in the Persian Gulf through which they harass both commercial shipping and even military navies.

All these measures are aimed at expanding conflicts from Iran's southern shores into the Arabian Sea, across to the strategic Ban al-Mandab Strait, and into the Red Sea. These activities spread through such a vast geographical area allowing Iran's regime to influence a wide range of measures and issues across this region. This is rendered into the political influence that is extremely important to Tehran.

Most terrorist operations in this sensitive area of the globe that target foreign and Arab ships have been launched by the Quds Force through these proxy naval units. The Iranian regime is thus able to cover its tracks and continue pursuing an agenda in the shadow of the ongoing war in the region that is fueled by the Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen.

From early 2021 onward, and more specifically after August 2021 to this day, meaning after Ebrahim Raisi took office as the Iranian regime's new president, Tehran has been expanding and escalating its maritime terrorist operations using its foreign proxies, and this especially includes the Houthis in Yemen.

With the Quds Force intensifying its destructive meddling across the region, Tehran has been further deploying unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, or drones) and missile attacks. The Iranian regime is escalating its maritime violence to follow suit with its increasing use of drone attacks targeting Persian Gulf countries, especially with a series of recent attacks targeting cities inside the UAE, leading to both UAE and U.S. forces stationed in Abu Dhabi to respond by deploying Patriot air defense missiles. These belligerent measures, of course, go parallel to the regime's nuclear hostility.

The West's insistence on continuing their appeasement policy vis-à-vis the Iranian regime and refusing to hold the mullahs accountable for their terrorism, let alone their human rights violations at home, are increasingly emboldening Tehran to expand its rogue behavior across the Middle East and create even more mayhem throughout the region.

Regardless of how Tehran may further pursue its nuclear weapons program and the Vienna negotiations with world powers, the mullahs' regime needs to be held accountable for their numerous proxy wars in the region, their continued support for terrorism, expansion of ballistic missiles, and the appalling human rights violations and crackdown as more Iranians take to the streets these days to voice their protests. None of these dossiers can be independently pursued by the international community without responding to the regime's belligerence in its entirety.

The Iranian regime's updated game plan to further advance their terrorist objectives by prioritizing the recruiting/training/arming/funding of proxy groups, parallel to expanding their regional mayhem, seeks to realize the goal of projecting power and providing necessary cover for the mullahs' fundamental weakness inside Iran.

From December 2017 onward, Iran has witnessed eight major uprisings, some leading to nationwide movements, in addition to continuous protests by people from all walks of life. The Iranian society, described by experts and academics as a powder keg, is constantly voicing its undeniable desire for fundamental regime change in Iran by the people of Iran.

The mullahs are boosting their support for terrorism in a desperate effort to obtain additional leverage both domestically and internationally. This goes to explain why Tehran is increasing the budget and resources needed to train, fund, and arm its proxy groups while a majority of the Iranian population is barely making ends meet and living in poverty.

With Raisi taking the helm at the regime's presidency, any conciliatory and/or appeasement approach adopted by the West would only encourage Tehran to increase its bellicosity. As a result, there should be no discussion of sanctions relief for the regime until they have brought all their rogue behavior both inside the country and abroad to a complete halt.

In fact, the international community should be imposing additional sanctions in response to the Iranian regime's recent measures to increase violence across the region parallel to escalating crackdown inside the country.

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JUL 08 2022

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**PRESS CONFERENCE: NCRI-US To Unveil IRGC Quds Force's  
Proxy Naval Terror Structure**

***Iran regime's recruitment, training, and arming of foreign mercenaries to  
be disclosed***

**WASHINGTON, DC, January 26, 2022** -- On Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 11:00 am (EST), the U.S. Representative Office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI-US) will hold a press conference in Washington, DC, to unveil detailed aspects of the proxy naval terror structure and operations run by the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC-QF).

NCRI-US will disclose the cycle of recruitment, training, weapons transfers, and logistical support of foreign mercenaries from Yemen, Iraq, Africa, and elsewhere, engaged in maritime terrorist operations. *Satellite imagery and other visual details will be presented.*

Since early 2021, and especially since August 2021 when Ebrahim Raisi took office as the new president, Tehran has stepped up its maritime terrorist operations by foreign mercenaries, especially the Houthis (Ansarallah) of Yemen.

Through its nationwide network in Iran, the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) has collected and compiled the alarming details of the IRGC-QF's proxy maritime terror structure.

Over the past two decades, the NCRI has exposed dozens of important sites and centers of Tehran's nuclear weapons program, including the groundbreaking revelation of Natanz nuclear site, its ambitious missile program, and its terrorism network in the region.

More recently, on October 6, 2021, during a press conference in Washington, DC, NCRI revealed the extensive drone program by the IRGC and the Quds Force intended to wage terrorism and warmongering in the region. On October 29, 2021, the U.S. Treasury Department designated a number of entities and individuals involved in Iran's UAV program including some of those exposed in the NCRI press conference. In December 2021, the "Stop Iranian Drones Act" (SIDA), passed in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and a similar bill was introduced in the Senate.

**DATE: Wednesday, February 2, 2022**

**TIME: 11:00 am (EST)**

**WHERE: Washington, DC**

**CONTACT: [media@ncrius.org](mailto:media@ncrius.org), 202-747-7847**

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