



**HEADQUARTERS**  
MULTI-NATIONAL FORCE - IRAQ  
BAGHDAD, IRAQ  
APO AE 09342-1400

February 16, 2006

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Deputy Commanding General

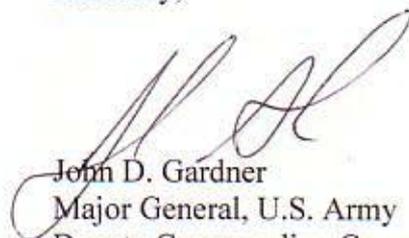
Secretary General Madame Sedigheh Hosseini  
Ashraf, Iraq

**Dear Madame Hosseini:**

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of the residents of Camp Ashraf regarding the legality of any non-voluntary repatriation of Ashraf residents to their country of origin. Multi-National Force-Iraq appreciates our responsibilities with regard to the Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Civilian Persons (GC IV), 1949. In particular, we are sensitive to the requirements established in Article 45 which prohibit the transfer of a protected person to a country in which he or she may have reason to fear persecution for his or her political opinions or religious beliefs.

Finally, I would like to assure you that the coalition remains deeply committed to the security and rights of the protected people of Ashraf and the principle of non-refoulement. We will continue to work with the residents of Camp Ashraf, Iraqi authorities, and appropriate international organizations to resolve the disposition of the Ashraf residents consistent with applicable international law.

Sincerely,



John D. Gardner  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Deputy Commanding General