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Landinformationsenheten

Fråga-svar

Irak. Organisationen Fedayeen Saddam

Fråga

Information önskas om organisationen Fedayeen Saddam.

Har medlemmar i Fedayeen Saddam utfört t.ex. tortyrhandlingar eller utomrättsliga avrättningar?

Svar

Sammanställning av information:

Council on Foreign Relations (2003):

Experts say the Fedayeen Saddam, or Saddam's Men of Sacrifice, is a 30,000 to 40,000-member Iraqi paramilitary group that appears to be leading guerrilla-style attacks on coalition forces in southern Iraq.

[...]

When was the Fedayeen founded?

In 1995, by Uday [Saddam Husseins äldste son]. Though much remains unknown about the group, military experts believe it started out as a rag-tag force of some 10,000 to 15,000 drawn from regions most loyal to the Baath regime. Uday has used the force for personal ends, placing it in charge of smuggling and using it to attack, torture, and murder opponents. He lost control of the militia in 1996, apparently after transferring sophisticated weapons to it from the Republican Guard without Saddam's permission, according to reports from Iraqi defectors. In recent years, the force appears to have been placed back under his control.

What does it do?

In addition to organizing smuggling and other illegal efforts along Iraq's borders, the group is thought to be directly responsible for some of the regime's most brutal acts. It is widely reported to operate a death squad that conducts extra-judicial executions. The U.S. State Department, for example, accuses the Fedayeen of beheading more than 200 women as part of an alleged anti-prostitution campaign. Some of the families of the victims were forced to display the heads outside their homes. "Many of the victims were not engaged in prostitution, but were targeted for political reasons," according to a March 20 State Department report.

CBS (2009):

Mohammed Abdul Majid was a major in the Iraqi Army until he defected in 1991.

In the Middle East today – we've been asked not to say exactly where—Abdul Majid told Correspondent Randall Pinkston how he helped set up the unit that eventually became the Fedayeen.

"They use a lot of fear, and horror," he says. "They scare the people. They are well trained. They are well trained in killing. I'm not sure if they are trained in battles, big battles--you know, like we train in the Army."

They are, he says, trained for assassination. They are trained to kill opposition members. They are trained to scare people. Some of the Fedayeen, he says, were taken straight out of prisons to join the unit.

[...]

Their first job, three or four years ago, was to behead prostitutes and parade their remains in the streets of Baghdad and Basra. The public demonstration, Abdul Majeed says, was intended "to terrorize the people," to tell them, "We are around you all the time. You can't even wink, you know? And this, this is fear."

BBC News (2003):

From the beginning, Fedayeen units consisted to a large extent of local toughs who could be relied upon to protect the president and his family, put down dissent and carry out much of the police's dirty work.

It is believed to include a special unit known as the death squadron which, according to dissident sources, carries out executions of opponents of the regime, often in the victims' own homes.

The Fedayeen operate completely outside the law, above and outside political and legal structures.

Time Magazine (2003):

Uday's [Saddam Husseins äldste son] physical ailments seemed to heighten his sadistic tendencies. According to his chief bodyguard, when Uday learned that one of his close comrades, who knew of his many misdeeds, was planning to leave Iraq, he invited him to his 37th-birthday party and had him arrested. An eyewitness at the prison where the man was held says members of the Fedayeen grabbed his tongue with pliers and sliced it off with a scalpel so he could not talk. A maid who cleaned one of Uday's houses says she once saw him lop off the ear of one of his guards and then use a welder's torch on his face.

Danish Immigration Service (2002) skriver om Fedayeen Saddam och tar bl.a. upp organisationens historia, uppgifter, rekrytering och situationen för avhoppare.

3.2.3 Tasks

According to international sources in Amman Saddam Fedayeen originally was set up as an anti-smuggling and patrol unit. Saddam Fedayeen is now believed to have a number of tasks concerning internal security and is counted upon to support Saddam against domestic opponents. According to unconfirmed reports the unit was involved in the beheading of prostitutes and other forms of executions a few years ago.

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda av Migrationsverkets landinformationsenhet under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

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