

U.K. Embassy had tunnel for whores, and spices!



IranTimes: Britain stands accused of yet more chicanery in Iran as news reports last week alleged the crafty Brits had built a tunnel between their embassy and the outside world so they could move spies and prostitutes- in and out of the embassy without their being observed. The news reports said the tunnel was dug from the embassy beneath Ferdowsi Avenue and a carpet shop across the street. The stories said the tunnel was uncovered by construction workers digging under House of Carpet's across Ferdowsi from the embassy. There were no photos or specifics on the size of the tunnel. Significantly, not a word was said about where the tunnel emerged, a rather crucial detail to explain who has helping the crafty Brits. Three Majlis deputies expressed revulsion over the alleged tunnel and called on the Foreign and Intelligence Ministries to conduct a

swift investigation. Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad-Ali-Hossaini confirmed Sunday that there was a tunnel. But rather than assailing perfidious Albion, Hossaini said there was nothing new about the tunnel, that it was uncovered and closed down four years ago. But the government said nothing four years ago about such a tunnel.

As to the allegation that the tunnel was used to move spies and prostitutes, Hossaini said, "Such an analysis is not correct." But he did not say what the tunnel was used for. British Embassy officials brushed off the tunnel story. Asked by a British reporter if there might be a tunnel that was dug by Iran to eavesdrop on the embassy, an embassy spokesman said, "I am certain that is not true." The tunnel story was carried last Wednesday by both state radio and Raja News, an ultrarightist website said to be operated by the wife of Gholam-Hossain Elham, who is both minister of justice and the cabinet spokesman. The state radio and Raja reports were almost identically worded. They said the "huge" tunnel was found by construction workers and that "a blogger who used to work for the British embassy" but was otherwise unidentified had written that the tunnel was used to bring spies and prostitutes into and out of the embassy. They both said nothing about where the tunnel emerged, a very crucial detail. Britain has become an increasing target of hardliner fury in recent years. The embassy has become the chief focus of anti-western protests.

U.S. judge says Islamic Rep. cannot duck tablet case



IranTimes: A judge in Chicago has ruled that the Islamic Republic must respond to questions from a lawyer seeking to seize clay tablets unearthed at Persepolis in the 1930s.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), however, falsely reported that the judge had ordered the tablets seized and sold off at auction. The Islamic Republic has for many months been telling the Iranian public that the Americans are trying to take away Iran's historic patrimony.

The lawsuit at issue was filed by families who had won a terrorism judgment against Iran for \$409 million. Under the 1996 Victims of Terrorism Act, the families of American citizens killed by terrorism can sue those countries. The Islamic Republic does not recognize the right of foreigners to sue the Iranian state and so does not show up in U.S. courts where such cases are heard.

The plaintiffs then win by default. But the winners of such suits against Iran rarely receive any money because Iran won't pay and there are rarely any Iranian state funds that the plaintiffs can get hold of. In this case, the plaintiffs noted that about 300 cuneiform tablets belonging to Iran were at the University of Chicago to be translated. They filed suit to seize those tablets and auction them off in partial payment of what the Islamic Republic owes them. The suit has been underway for more than two years. It has not yet reached the point where the lawyers will argue whether the tablets can be seized. Initially, Iran argued it was exempt from the suit as a foreign government and refused to appear in court. But Federal District Judge Blanche Manning ruled that Iran could be sued.

Then David Strachman, lawyer for the plaintiffs, posed a series of questions to Iran. It refused to respond, saying it was exempt as a foreign sovereign state. In the latest ruling, Judge Manning said Iran was not exempt and must respond.

But IRNA falsely reported in its English-

language service: "An American judge, who has held Iran legally responsible for the 1997 Al-Qods bombing, RULED THAT THE Persian artifacts in the U.S. be seized and auctioned in favor of the survivors of the incident." All Judge Manning ruled was that Iran must designate an official to answer questions under oath from attorney Strachman.

Thomas Corcoran Jr., Iran's American attorney, told the Bloomberg news service he doesn't know if Iran will appeal, but "I tend to think that, if that goes to the court of appeals, they will disagree." Strachman told Bloomberg, "The Iranian government is going to have to comply with the rules of this court instead of trying to interpose delay and stymie the process. They have to comply with the rule of law."

Under American law, foreign governments are exempt from most suits filed by American citizens. But the law provides for several exceptions. In 1996, Congress added the "victims of terrorism" as another exception. The tablets at issue carry administrative records written in cuneiform about the construction of Persepolis. They were found in a vault at the site in the 1930s by archaeologists from the University of Chicago. The few people who can read the texts are all at the university. Thousands of tablets have been returned to Iran over the years, but 300 remain in Chicago.

Iranian is named dean at Harvard



Architectural Association School of Architecture in London. After graduate work, he taught at the Frankfurt Academy of Arts in Germany and the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia before becoming an associate professor of architecture at Harvard from 1990 to 1995. He then returned to London as dean of the Architectural Association School of Architecture until 2004 when he became dean of Cornell University's College of Architecture.

He takes up his new post at Harvard in January.

Mostafavi is best known in his field for his studies of building surfaces and how they change over time. One of his many books is "On Weathering: The Life of Buildings in Time."

Mostafavi is married to Homa Fardjadi, a professor of architecture at the University of Pennsylvania.

Iran Times: Harvard University has named Mohsen Mostafavi to be dean of its Faculty of Design, one of the 14 schools that comprise Harvard University. Born in Iran, Mostafavi received a diploma in architecture in 1976 from the

Continued from page 44 >

Sanctions work even...

At issue was a bank in Macao, Banco Delta Asia, that the United States sanctioned almost two years ago for laundering money to aid illicit activities of the North Korean government. That froze \$25 million in North Korean funds deposited in the bank.

When North Korea agreed a few months ago to halt its nuclear weapons program, it first demand was that the \$25 million be unfrozen and returned to North Korea. Washington agreed to allow the money to be repatriated, but it kept its sanctions on the bank.

Since Banco Delta Asia was labeled a money launderer two years ago, no reputable bank has wanted to have anything to do with it. And that label hasn't changed. So the attitude of reputable banks to it hasn't changed.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill spent weeks "flailing around" and approaching banks to take the funds from Banco Delta Asia and move them to a bank in Russia that North Korea has designated as its agent. But banks were leery.

At one point, an official told The New York Times, Wachovia Bank was preparing to act, but backed out for fear it would be labeled in the industry as dealing in "hot

money." Finally the State Department gave up on private banks and approached the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, which is a U.S. government corporation. After four months, a system was worked out. Banco Delta Asia gave the money to the Macao Monetary Authority, Macao's central bank, which transferred the funds to the Russian Central Bank, which transferred the money to the bank in Vladivostok that North Korea had designated.

The Russian Central Bank was willing to get involved only after the U.S. ambassador in Moscow, William Burns, personally gave it assurances it would not face any punishment under any money laundering laws. Like Banco Delta Asia, two Iranian banks- Bank Saderat and Bank Sepah- have been sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury.

The Times quoted a Bush Administration official as saying, "You can be sure that other countries, like Iran, will be drawing lessons from North Korea."

What Banco Delta Asia demonstrates is that once you find yourself in this tar pit, it's almost impossible to extract yourself. That has huge implications for banks we've targeted in Iran. Iran has seven state-owned commercial banks. As only two have been sanctioned, so far, Iran can conduct international business freely through the other five for the moment.

فرم درخواست اشتراک نشریه پژواک

شرایط آبونمان: برای دریافت این نشریه (پژواک) از طریق پست

در آمریکا: یکساله ۳۵ دلار خارج از آمریکا: یکساله ۶۰ دلار
پژواک ۱۰۳۰-۶۱۵-۴۰۸

NAME: _____ (PRINT)
ADDRESS: _____ (PRINT)
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ (PRINT)
Date: _____
Phone#: _____

PEZHVAK CORP.
P.O. Box 54067
San Jose, CA 95154-0067 U.S.A.



تغییر مکان می دهید؟

در صورت تغییر مکان خواهشمندیم فرم زیر را پر کرده و به آدرس پژواک پست نمایید تا نشریه پژواک را بدون تاخیر دریافت نمایید.

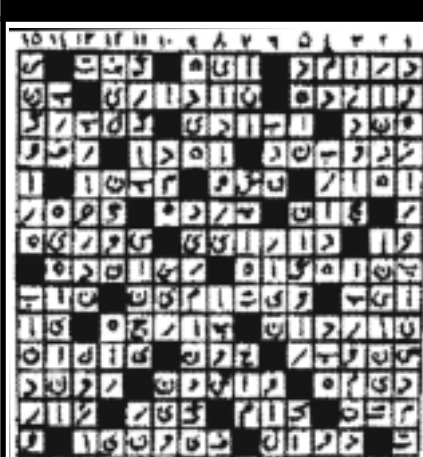
OLD ADDRESS:
Name _____
Address _____ Apt# _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

NEW ADDRESS:
Name _____
Address _____ Apt# _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

PEZHVAK CORP.
P.O. BOX 54067
SAN JOSE, CA 95154-0067
Tel: 408-615-1030 • Fax: 408-615-1033



حل جدول شماره ۱۹۵



برای درج آگهی در
کتاب یلویج ایرانیان شمال
کالیفرنیا
با «پژواک» تماس حاصل نمایید.



**یلویج پژواک،
بانک اطلاعاتی ایرانیان**

(408) 615-1030