

## Hyping the 'Iranian Bomb'

As if on his cue, the Mujahideen-e-Khalq Iranian terrorist group beloved of U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, has come out with new "evidence" of Iran's nuclear program. The MEK, also known as the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), charged that Iran has a hidden nuclear facility, and could have the nuclear bomb by 2005. The U.S. State Department and Treasury closed down the U.S. offices of the MEK/NCRI on Aug. 15, citing their "acts of terrorism."

Firouz Mahvi, of the foreign relations committee of the NCRI, said in Vienna on Oct. 14, "The site has been built to test centrifuges that enrich uranium. It is located 15 kilometers east of Isfahan, under the name of Isfahan's Fuel Research and Production center." He said the information came from undercover agents who have been working there. Mahvi also said that Tehran "has asked the contractor for the Natanz site to speed up its activities to expedite the completion of the site."

Iran's Ambassador to the IAEA, Ali Akbar Salehi, dismissed the report as "absolutely baseless."