



NEWS RELEASE

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
7115 South Boundary Boulevard
MacDill AFB, Fla.

33621-5101 Phone: (813) 827-5894; FAX: (813) 827-2211; DSN 651-5894

May 10, 2003

Release Number: 03-05-37

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEK CONSOLIDATING UNDER COALITION CONTROL

COBRA BASE, IRAQ – V Corps has accepted the voluntary consolidation of the Mujahedin-E-Khalq's (MEK) forces, and subsequent control over those forces. This process is expected to take several days to complete. When finally accomplished, the peaceful resolution of this process between the MEK and the Coalition will significantly contribute to the Coalition's mission to set the conditions that will establish a safe and secure environment for the people of Iraq. Previously, V Corps was monitoring a cease-fire brokered between the MEK and Special Forces elements. The MEK forces have been abiding by the terms of this agreement and are cooperating with Coalition soldiers. While we are confident that the process will proceed smoothly, we are conducting this operation in a deliberate manner to minimize the possibility of misunderstandings or renewed violence. Groups displaying hostile intent or refusing to cooperate with the authority of the Coalition will be subjected to the full weight of Coalition military power. Groups are encouraged to adhere to this warning and submit to the authority of the Coalition immediately.

-30-