



March 28, 2007

**Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center  
at the Israel Intelligence Heritage  
& Commemoration Center (IICC)**

**Following an appeal from the Argentinean Attorney General, Interpol issued international extradition warrants for five senior Iranians and one senior Hezbollah operative. The charge was involvement in the suicide bombing attack of the Jewish community center building (AMIA) in Argentina in 1994.<sup>1</sup>**



**The men wanted by Argentina. Top row, left to right: Ali Akbar Heshemi Bahramie Rafsanjani, Ali Fallahijan, Ali Akbar Velayati, Mohsen Rezai. Bottom row, left to right: Imad Moughnieh, Mohsen Rabbani, Ahmad Reza Asghari, (also known as Mohsen Randjbaran), Ahmad Vahidi. Picture from the Argentinean Attorney General's Website. International extradition warrants were not issued**

<sup>1</sup> For further information see our November 2006 Bulletin entitled "Argentina accuses Iran of responsibility for the Hezbollah terrorist attack which destroyed Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, 1994," at [http://www.terrorism.info.org.il/malam\\_multimedia/English/eng\\_n/pdf/argentina\\_amia\\_e.pdf](http://www.terrorism.info.org.il/malam_multimedia/English/eng_n/pdf/argentina_amia_e.pdf).

The presiding judge, Dr. Rodolfo Canicoba Corral, issued international arrest warrants for seven senior Iranian officials, including former president Rafsanjani, and senior Hezbollah operative Imad Moughnieh (November 12, 2006).

by Interpol for Ali Rafsanjani (top left) and Ali Velayati (top third from left), most probably out of political considerations.

1. Interpol's Executive Committee<sup>2</sup> decided to issue a Red Notice<sup>3</sup> for one senior Hezbollah operative and five senior Iranians. The six are suspected of involvement in the July 18, 1994 bombing of the Jewish Community Building (AMIA) in Argentinan, which killed 85 individuals and wounded several hundred.<sup>4</sup>



**The ruins of the AMIA building**

2. The six for whom the warrants were issued are:

A. **Imad Moughnieh**, Hassan Nasrallah's military deputy and head of Hezbollah's External Security Service. He is an internationally notorious terrorist who was responsible for many terrorist attacks against Western,

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<sup>2</sup> Interpol's Executive Committee is a select deliberative body which, in accordance with Article 22 of the Interpol Constitution, meets three times a year, usually in March, July and immediately before the General Assembly. Its role is to supervise the execution of the decisions of the General Assembly, prepare the agenda for General Assembly sessions, submit to the General Assembly any program of work or project it considers useful and to supervise the work of the General Secretary.

<sup>3</sup> A **Red Notice** seeks the arrest or provisional arrest of a wanted person with a view to extradition based on an arrest warrant. While Interpol cannot force any country to arrest or extradite suspects, those marked as wanted for extradition can be arrested outside their own borders according to the extradition laws existing between the various countries.

<sup>4</sup> On July 18, 1994, at 9:93 a.m. (Argentinean time) a Hezbollah suicide bomber blew himself up in the Jewish Community Building. For further information see our July 2003 Bulletin entitled "Hezbollah – Profile of the Lebanese Shiite Terrorist Organization of Global Reach Sponsored by Iran and Supported by Syria (Part B)," at [http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam\\_multimedia/ENGLISH/IRAN/PDF/JULY\\_03.PDF](http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam_multimedia/ENGLISH/IRAN/PDF/JULY_03.PDF).

Israeli and Jewish targets in Lebanon and in other countries, and is wanted by the United States.



**Haj Imad Fayiz Moughnieh (Al-Nahar, February 17, 2002)**

B. **Mohsen Rabbani**, Iranian cultural attaché in Buenos Aires at the time of the attack

C. **Ahmad Reza Asghari** (also known as Mohsen Randjbaran ), third secretary of the Iranian embassy in Buenos Aires at the time of the attack

D. **Ahmad Vahidi**, formerly commander of the **Qods Force** and today acting minister of defense.

E. **Mohsen Rezai**, commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards,<sup>5</sup> formerly and currently secretary of the Expediency Discernment Council.

F. **Ali Fallahijan**, formerly Iran's minister of intelligence and security, today advisor to Khamenei.

3. On November 10, 2006 the Argentinean Attorney General issued international arrest warrants for the Iran's former president, Ali Rafsanjani, and eight additional men who were involved in the bombing of the AMIA building, on the charge of **crimes against humanity**. Two weeks later Argentina asked Interpol to issue warrants for the nine (**eight** of whom are **Iranian**). Interpol's Executive Council reported that after weighing various written and oral testimonies presented in Argentina and Iran, it had decided to adopt the summation of the report prepared by Interpol's legal department

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<sup>5</sup> The Qods Force, today commanded by Qassem Suleimani, who is responsible for directing and supporting Hezbollah and other terrorist organizations in Lebanon and other locations around the world. A Bulletin concerning the Qods Force will appear shortly.

regarding issuing international arrest warrants for five Iranians and one Hezbollah operatives who had been involved in the attack.

4. The warrants will go into effect on March 31, 2007, unless Argentina or Iran (or any other country) files an appeal and expresses opposition. If an appeal is filed the issue will be transferred to in Interpol's General Assembly for deliberation (**November 2007**). Interpol did not issue international extradition warrants for former Iranian president **Ali Rafsanjani**, former foreign minister **Ali Akbar Velayati** or former Iranian ambassador to Argentina, **Hadi Suleimanpour**, who were all included in the Argentinean request for extradition, in our opinion out of political considerations.<sup>6</sup>

5. **Iran** denies any involvement in the attack, and has criticized both the investigation conducted in Argentina and Interpol's Executive Committee decision resulting from it. Iranian spokesmen have said that Interpol's decision is unacceptable and that the issuing of warrants is a violation of Interpol's constitution. Iranian sources described the decision as "a Zionist plot" intended to deflect international attention from the "crimes Israel commits against women and children in Palestine." Nevertheless, Iran has not yet filed an official appeal with Interpol regarding the decision.

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<sup>6</sup> As requested by Argentina, Hadi Suleimanpour was arrested by the British authorities in 2003, but was released after a short time.